

Marginalia

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to my beloved Brendan

*These poems were inspired by the paintings
of George Tooker*

the early work

Audience 1945

I I swan

Toltec lumberyard

(blimp) Jesse

lilies

Dance 1946

pan ney Welsh
burl Wotan
la la la

Children and Spastics 1946

consuetude
see
see She

The Chess Game 1947

thy blue skull
sweet game

gyre gyre: sheltering
deer-piece

Self Portrait 1947

Pilate: dog bead
dharna Bristol
dray Merlin
(paw-paw)

Coney Island 1948

soeur Philippa
tore Ali (Pure Land)

Bird Watchers 1948

dos-à-dos
not.
not aleatory

Festa 1948

piper (St.)
the they

elm nog:
Jinenjo (spriglet)

à alee
crepuscular

Market 1949

Judaeus flocks
at'a smithy (caryatid)

Cornice 1949

hip-hop. the sorrel
(so)
starlet
pointillist
Philoctetes

the paintings of social concern

The Subway 1950

nip atrium.
tip or are

femme wits "hoos-thief"
(washes Bartholomew)

Elle. yes

till asay
chitchat

Government Bureau 1956

a-ticket
Wenceslaus
um plateful

what/hoosier
sackcoat

Supermarket 1973

oops! redbreast

Way or
(slicker) Cheapside

wetlands cowbell
 tell new
 teary-eyed

Highway 1953

Tudor. wry by
plume Tibet
tri do

chrysalis aegis.
@ Asia kill
prescient

Balkan fjord.
Yeti señora
wolfskin

Men and Women Fighting 1958

*Yantra huntress: congas tzaddik
golashes*

Teller 1967

Yama
Yama: *chedis*

ojas *Anschluss*

clackity clack.

pin-the-tail
Abednego

Waiting Room II 1982

“ja ja”
sou’wester. [puzzlement]

“pulps” Shadrach
(Meshach) rocking yes

cowgirl Escene
mere (deeper)
gosling

Corporate Decision 1983

pins & once
 tomboy
 (shant)

puzzlement jaggery
 the stargaze:

Terminal 1986

bohea
(thew)
“endlessly rocking”

bluebell (four leaf)
mar Ophelia
“the two of them”

innocent diversions

Divers 1952

rudraksha wildwood
oink oink

Malachi
beadgame tongue & tongues ferry

Acrobats 1950-52

floozy
it slurp 'tis

Paschel Remus
pole water

twig twig (seem)
'til tail stone

Garden Party 1952

stone. old stone
caterwauling
bambina

In the Summer House 1958

peep-show
the Doges: sea-chair

priapie
chaws chaw

snickers cd.
bloodstock
“hit on”
Hiei Aeffic
“maybe I can”

Lantern 1977

swan. oral swan
 (yew) *mani*
 cartwheel

starry (do it)
 mulatto/sea-language

Lanterns 1986

1.

Abiquiu
the jug.
the (seahawk)

2.

HOWL
plump
honeygrass
pipergrass

3.

lightfoot saluki
Enkidu
rose-leaves

4.

Ox free (nor)
rose

doors and walls

Voice I 1963

yellowbird
(blowy) night train

Two Heads 1966

chil'en
daybreak
gher Euston
blue rice bird

White Wall 1964-65

cisco filliloo
gum tree
gum tree

snow cock
mo'
end-product

Farewell 1966

o'libra
snowgoose
Westerly
stegasauras

the sleep of mortals, the watch of angels

Sleepers I 1951

Pincio bulrush (sal)
kylix bin
kusha grass

Sleepers II 1959

taiga Ellesmere
badlands nil
marionette

Fig Tree 1955

chatzka!

mass moon
sri (gal)
antebellum

Entertainers 1959-60

gaijin
gaijin sweetie.

habitué
sweetly so

Nuba per chance
foot.
 deerbell

Three Heads 1967

terrier
ewe-lamb
I'll watchbell

Three Women 1959-60

red red
craw
ell mown

Meadow I 1960-61

ima
aba (sandboy). swot
no luncheonette

Meadow II 1977-79

Ignatius jar:
nib the on
Alexius (wildcat)

wildcard
Thisbe
shirt-sleeves

the spanish pictures

Two Women with Laundry 1974

Vevey intelligentsia
mullet
negus

epergne florins
blue-chip

Claveles 1974

Trappist celery to
seagrass

winds

(nail)

Pot of Aloes 1974

qi face art. barrow Father

Woman with Oranges 1977

Tipper
(drear)
dint Thor
johnswort

Still Life with Oranges 1980

poor-jack Veery

pol whoop
pol batteau
(Veery) burble. deadwater

lovers

Lovers I 1959

1.

dight à
jig
moon

2.

jabs gaffe
limn (gig) dilatory

3.

 dee-dum
corpuscle tho' A
mogul
(shine-on)

Lovers II 1960

(licit) pulque
churro rig. play-off

Tree 1965

au Eve
(hilltribe)

solto /ox
(our task)

Table I 1959

“musketo”
fracas
ice lock. had

Odalisque 1967

namu

Böd

snowbird

Tara Mater

cow

cow

cow

jooal

pea-pod (shy sly)

Embrace I 1979

tenement *jai* deer-basket
jai prow
(chew)
enchantress

Embrace II 1981

sparyard ... dog-earred

furl
ki: ne'er
cryer
entrain

Embrace III 1983

missy bo-peep

'twill (nine)
corbel

sty sky to cow

seem
spar seem: grey-dog

Garden Wall 1990

whip-o-will
(right by)

green grow
the rushes.
constable

green-o
fiddle (the rushes)
evangel-poem

death

Standing Figures 1973

“make me”
chihuahua.
 putative ivied
cheetah
ghillie
 edginess

Woman at the Wall 1974

Esu but shuffleboard
 (flea-seed)
 “pet-notion”

The Lesson 1974

killer
wh. tea-leaves

tsk tsk tsk

jabari
(spinster)
breakable person

resurrection

Supper 1963

[reach-me-down] scow
 wu wei
 baccarat

 Lydia
“kist” ululate

Girl Praying 1977

bluebird
Sarajevo
para Negro
Valhalla bitch cru

Landscape with Figures II 1985

tat
slow-boat
trough (queerly)

Rick
starling
starlet

osler
tamarisk
Oology

Embrace of Piece I 1986

mockernut
mockernut
“our maker”. riverward

the seven sacraments

The Seven Sacraments (A Celebration of Life) 1980

Clare (see fit)
.Godpool

*The Fourth Station of the Cross:
Jesus Encounters His Holy Mother 1984*

thru Him marigold
summertime
summertime
 bluefish
 (pokeweed) WANTED
 kept cups