

My Uncle's Favorite Coffee Shop

BY NAOMI SHIHAB NYE

Serum of steam rising from the cup,
what comfort to be known personally by *Barbara*,
her perfect pouring hand and starched ascot,
known as the two easy eggs and the single pancake,
without saying.

What pleasure for an immigrant—
anything without saying.

My uncle slid into his booth.

I cannot tell you—how I love this place.

He drained the water glass, noisily clinking his ice.

My uncle hailed from an iceless region.

He had definite ideas about water drinking.

I cannot tell you—all the time. But then he'd try.

My uncle wore a white shirt every day of his life.

He raised his hand against the roaring ocean
and the television full of lies.

He shook his head back and forth
from one country to the other
and his ticket grew longer.

Immigrants had double and nothing all at once.

Immigrants drove the taxis, sold the beer and Cokes.

When he found one note that rang true,
he sang it over and over inside.

Coffee, honey.

His eyes roamed the couples at other booths,
their loose banter and casual clothes.

But he never became them.

Uncle who finally left in a bravado moment
after 23 years, *to live in the old country forever,*
to stay and never come back,

maybe it would be peaceful now,
maybe for one minute,

I cannot tell you—how my heart has settled at last.

But he followed us to the sidewalk
saying, *Take care, Take care,*

as if he could not stand to leave us.

I cannot tell—

how we felt

to learn that the week he arrived,

he died. Or how it is now,

driving his parched streets,

feeling the booth beneath us as we order,

oh, anything, because if we don't,

nothing will come.

Coffee Shop Poems First

P.J. & A.E. Dobell (Firm)



Coffee Shop Poems First:

Coffee Shop Poems William Ullrich Hite, 1977 **Coffee Shop Poems-Another Cup** Hollis Davis, 2011-09-01 *Coffee Shop Poems Another Cup* is Mr Davis's fifth book four of poetry and one of his memoirs Many of the poems were written in the coffee shop where he sits on Saturday and Sunday mornings He is not sure but believes his muse also likes coffee It may seem that some of the poems were written under the influence of a more potent liquid not so It is just synapses searching for the right words The poems are representative of various stages of his life including memories of accumulated experience with added condiments or seasoning In some instances real people may be implied and others are totally fiction In some poems the words came first and in others the feelings started as shadows looking for words **The Cambridge Guide to Women's Writing in English** Lorna Sage, 1999-09-30 This Guide aims to consolidate and epitomise the re-reading of women's writing that has gone on in the last twenty five years This is an opportunity for stock taking a timely project when so much writing has been rediscovered reclaimed and republished There are entries on writers on individual texts and on general terms genres and movements all printed in a single alphabetical sequence The earliest written documents in medieval English the visionary writings of Julian of Norwich and Margery Kempe are covered in an historical and geographical sweep that takes us up to the present day The book reflects the spread of literacy the history of colonisation and the development of post colonial cultures using and changing the English language The entries are written by contributors from all the countries covered The result is a work of reference with a unique feeling for the vitality wealth and diversity of women's writing

Twelve Centuries of English Poetry and Prose, 1910 P.J. & A.E. Dobell Book Sale Catalogs P.J. & A.E. Dobell (Firm), 1918 **British Poetry and Prose** Paul Robert Lieder, Robert Morss Lovett, Robert Kilburn Root, 1928 Longer English Poems John Wesley Hales, 1897 **Longer English Poems, with Notes, Philological and Explanatory, and an Introduction on the Teaching of English** John Wesley Hales, 1872 **The Library of Wit and Humor, Prose and Poetry** Ainsworth Rand Spofford, 1894 The Cambridge Companion to Eighteenth-Century Poetry John Sitter, 2001-03-26

The Cambridge Companion to Eighteenth Century Poetry analyzes major premises preoccupations and practices of English poets writing from 1700 to the 1790s These specially commissioned essays avoid familiar categories and single author approaches to look at the century afresh Chapters consider such large poetic themes as nature the city political passions the relation of death to desire and dreams appeals to an imagined future and the meanings of sensibility Other chapters explore historical developments such as the connection between poetic couplets and conversation the conditions of publication changing theories of poetry and imagination growing numbers of women poets and readers the rise of a self-consciously national tradition and the place of lyric poetry in thought and practice The essays are well supported by supplementary material including a chronology of the period and detailed guides to further reading Altogether the volume provides an invaluable resource for scholars and students *The Oxford Handbook of Andrew Marvell* Martin Dzelzainis, Edward

Holberton,2019-03-28 The Oxford Handbook of Andrew Marvell is the most comprehensive and informative collection of essays ever assembled dealing with the life and writings of the poet and politician Andrew Marvell 1621-78 Like his friend and colleague John Milton Marvell is now seen as a dominant figure in the literary landscape of the mid-seventeenth century producing a stunning oeuvre of poetry and prose either side of the Restoration In the 1640s and 1650s he was the author of hypercanonical lyrics like *To His Coy Mistress* and *The Garden* as well as three epoch-defining poems about Oliver Cromwell After 1660 he virtually invented the verse genre of state satire as well as becoming the most influential prose satirist of the day in the process forging a long-lived reputation as an incorruptible patriot Although Marvell himself was an intensely private and self-contained character whose literary, religious, and political commitments are notoriously difficult to discern the interdisciplinary contributions by an array of experts in the fields of seventeenth-century literature, history, and politics gathered together in the Handbook constitute a decisive step forward in our understanding of him They offer a fully rounded account of his life and writings individual readings of his key works considerations of his relations with his major contemporaries and surveys of his rich and varied afterlives Informed by the wealth of editorial and biographical work on Marvell that has been produced in the last twenty years the volume is both a conspectus of the state of the art in Marvell studies and the springboard for future research

Twelve Centuries of English Poetry and Prose Alphonso Gerald Newcomer,1910 **The Literary World** ,1876 **Bookseller's catalogues . 19 catalogues of early printed books and manuscripts, issued 1905-1916. Bound in 2 vols., being the firm's file copy** J. and J. Leighton,1886 **The Little Review** Margaret C. Anderson,1914 *Sotheran's Price Current of Literature* Henry Sotheran Ltd,1902 **Goldsmith's Choice Works** Oliver Goldsmith,1876 **Early American Poetry** Oscar Wegelin,1903 *Coda Magazine* ,1981 **"The Star Spangled Banner"** Oscar George Sonneck,1914

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