

Contents

Acknowledgments	vii
Introduction	ix
RON CARLSON	
The Wrong Answer	2
ROBIN HEMLEY	
Confessions of a Navel Gazer	8
FRANCINE PROSE	
Gesture	20
BILLY COLLINS	
The Myth of Craft	
<i>Thoughts on the Writing of Poetry</i>	40
PETER HO DAVIES	
Only Collect	
<i>Something about the Short Story Collection</i>	48
CHARLES BAXTER	
Stillness	66
DAVID KIRBY	
Thirteen Things I Hate about Poetry	86

CLAIRE BATEMAN		
Some Questions about Questions		100
STEPHEN DUNN		
The Poem, Its Buried Subject, and the Revisionist Reader <i>Behind "The Guardian Angel"</i>		118
LEE K. ABBOTT		
Thirteen Things about the Contemporary Short Story That Really Hack Me Off		128
TONY HOAGLAND		
Litany, Gamesmanship, and Representation <i>Charting the Old to the New Poetry</i>		138
MAGGIE NELSON		
All That Is the Case <i>Some Thoughts on Fact in Nonfiction and Documentary Poetry</i>		154
CARL DENNIS		
A Poem of Character		164
RICK BASS		
Good Fortune Befell Me <i>Notes on the Writer/Editor Relationship</i>		174
MARY RUEFLE		
Someone Reading a Book Is a Sign of Order in the World		180
Credits		193