The Three Companions

W. H. Auden

Volume 12, numéro 2, 2e semestre 1999

Poésie, cognition, traduction II — Autour d'un poème de W. H. Auden
Poetry, Cognition, Translation II — On a Poem by W. H. Auden

URI : <https://id.erudit.org/iderudit/037366ar>

DOI : <https://doi.org/10.7202/037366ar>

[Aller au sommaire du numéro](#)

Éditeur(s)

Association canadienne de traductologie

ISSN

0835-8443 (imprimé)

1708-2188 (numérique)

[Découvrir la revue](#)

Citer ce document

Auden, W. H. (1999). The Three Companions. *TTR*, 12(2), 9–9.
<https://doi.org/10.7202/037366ar>

AUTOUR D'UN POÈME DE W. H. AUDEN

The Three Companions

« O where are you going? » said reader to rider,
« That valley is fatal when furnaces burn,
Yonder's the midden whose odours will madden,
That gap is the grave where the tall return. »

« O do you imagine, » said fearer to farer,
« That dusk will delay on your path to the pass,
Your diligent looking discover the lacking
Your footsteps feel from granite to grass? »

« O what was that bird, » said horror to hearer,
« Did you see that shape in the twisted trees?
Behind you swiftly the figure comes softly,
The spot on your skin is a shocking disease. »

« Out of this house » - said rider to reader,
« Yours never will » - said farer to fearer,
« They're looking for you » - said hearer to horror
As he left them there, as he left them there.

W. H. Auden. *A Selection by the Author*
(1950 [1932])