

Down to earth Fallen leaves, autumn work

Every year I return to my book containing "Trees" by Joyce Kilmer. There is a bookmark on the page. I reread the poem these "leaf-kicking days" and say "Boo".

Our large lot is wallpapered with leaves and the effort to have a good clean-up is discouraging. But cheer up, a woman's memory is short because next spring I will be extolling to you the beauty of this and that tree.

But, may I warn you? small trees grow larger. A good tree which has the profile of a maple, is fast growing, with leaves that look like fine pine needles but is deciduous, is the Dawn Redwood or Metasequoia. This tree was abundant throughout the North Temperate area before the Ice Age.

A Chinese botanist reported this tree growing in a remote section of Central China in 1944, before the Communists came into power.

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By
ALICE
WESSELLS
BURLINGTON

Harvard sent a delegation to gather seeds. In 1953 the Secret Arboretum in Ohio already had trees growing rapidly from the seeds.

This tree will survive severe winters and dry summers. "No rakee" is necessary for these leaves and furthermore, commercially, it is an excellent source of pulpwood.

You might like to save your last pruning of your evergreens until just before the holidays when you can use the fresh cuts for trimming.

Gardening holds the interest of so many happy people because they are always trying new ideas. How can you face mid-January without knowing that you have some pots of bulbs stowed away for late winter pleasure within the home?

FIRST, GO TO the garden supply store and pick out bulbs. Don't mix up the varieties and colors. For forcing, exercise better taste by only having one color in a flower pot. Darwins make the best tulips to force.

Line up flower pots, placing a piece of broken crockery over the holes. Don't break one for this purpose as they are so expensive now. If you must, use some stones. Fill the pots up part way with a mix of soil, peatmoss and sand. Place bulbs on top of the soil. The tips should reach near the top of the pot. Tulips should always

have their flat side to the outside. Pack the soil which has been added around the bulbs.

Water thoroughly and set the clay pot in a container of water to assure a good job. Six tulip bulbs would be ideal for a 6" pot. Store the pots at least 12 weeks. They must be in an unheated storage area to encourage rooting and should be in complete darkness so roots will grow but not the tops. Water only if they become dry and cover for protection.

Check the pots at the end of 12 weeks and be sure they have had a good root growth. The tops should be about 2" high. As they are introduced to the living room, take a cycle for at least a week in a dark area, but not where they're freezing. Later, avoid direct sunlight. This is a good prescription for successfully growing tulips, hyacinths and daffodils. Don't forget the minor, small bulbs.

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Poet explores with honesty

By JOANN HOFFMAN
COMING ALIVE by Judith Goren.
Stone Press, 1975. \$2.95.

In her first volume of collected poems, Birmingham author Judith Goren opens herself to her readers through engaging and honest exploration of intensely personal feelings.

Translation of experience into image and language into motion is required of the poet. Further, the result must be charged with a valid emotion.

Judith Goren is well in command of modern poetic technique by these standards. And she goes beyond, allowing her audience in on the private silence and reflections from which a poem springs. This indiscriminate revelation is the simultaneous strength and weakness of the slim paperback. The strongest selections appear in

section one where the author's own fears of loneliness, emptiness, and endings communicate the urgency of coming alive, finding life. Poet elicits affirmation. Reader responds with the same urgency.

"YOUR BODY Never Lies" is an especially vibrant combination of fear, acceptance, decision, and action. There is an electric defiance of life's unanswered questions through a dramatic determination to get in touch with self.

This poem stands apart for what it portends.

Subsequent sections belong increasingly to the poet and less to her audience. It is an over-the-shoulder atmosphere that, while not unpleasant reading, becomes a look into one life rather than a view of all life.

"Requiem for Tom" is parti-

cularly intimate, and the rather artificial format appears a conscious attempt to universalize the death experience. This is possibly the weakest poem of the collection.

IT IS INTERESTING to trace repetitive imagery in collections of poetry by the same author, discovering clues to significant themes. Ms. Goren's recurring use of walls/doors/rooms carries a dual implication of the security of boundaries and the frustration of limitation.

The poet tries to reach across distances, both geographic and human, in order to establish the

connections through which life flows. Breaching space and time to move closer to other lives, and so affirming self-life, is the continuing movement of the final grouping of the volume, which could loosely be termed the "travel poems."

Ending a collection with a sense of progression is a good technique. A reader wishes for more, hoping to catch a glimpse of the destination. And it should be worthwhile to watch for more from Judith Goren.

Her first book of poems reveals high marks for broad appeal and ingenious expression.

Book Sale at library

Preparations are complete for the upcoming book sale at Baldwin Public Library. Mrs. W. Scott Purvis, chairman for the event, which is a project of the Friends of the Library, announced the sale will be held Saturday at 9:30 a.m. until 5:30 p.m. in the Library's second floor Jeanne Lloyd Lounge.

As in the past, sale items will include paperback and hardcover books for adults and children. In addition, shoppers will discover a variety of sale magazines, such as "National Geographic" and "Antiques."

Among members of the Friends assisting Mrs. Purvis with the sale

are Mrs. Bernadine Blosser, Mr. and Mrs. John Demlow, Mrs. William Everson, Mrs. James K. Flack, Mrs. Harry Gross, Dr. Louis Koren, Mrs. Donald McFadden, Mrs. James McGuire, Mrs. Donald E. Morse, and the President of the Friends, Miss Claudia Ireland.

These used book sales provide the Friends with the source of funds for their gifts to the library. Each year, these gifts include materials and equipment. Baldwin Public Library is located at the corner of Martin and Bates in Birmingham.

Halloween party slated

A real Halloween treat awaits those attending the second annual "Squeals and Squeegles and Ghostly Giggles" party at the Baldwin Public Library Thursday (Oct. 30) at 7:30 p.m.

Boys and girls are encouraged to come in costume and bring along their parents for this gala family affair. Included in the evening's

entertainment will be stories as well as games. To insure room for all desiring to attend, this year those who attend the party will need to present tickets. These tickets, which are free, should be picked up in the Boys' and Girls' Department of the Library, Martin at Bates in Birmingham.

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