



## *Jeffers Studies*

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# *Robinson Jeffers: A Bibliography of Criticism, 1912–1949*



*Front cover:* An exhibit of four items from the extensive Jeffers Collection at California State University Long Beach. The centerpiece is William Everson's world-famous masterwork, *Granite and Cypress: Rubbings from the Rock*, seventeen Jeffers "stone-handling" poems on wide horizontal format allowing full flow of Jeffers's long line and utilizing "reverse imprints" on the left-hand page. It stands in its slipcase of handcrafted Monterey cypress centered with a square of polished granite from Jeffers's stoneyard. To its right stands Marlan Beilke's *Shining Clarity: God and Man in the Works of Robinson Jeffers*, with photos by Horace Lyon and Lumir Bissenger, an acrylic of Tor House by Kenneth Jack, and a bronze medal of Jeffers by Czechoslovakian sculptor Lumir Sindelar, its slipcase highlighted by a bronze profile of Jeffers individually sand-cast by author Beilke. In the foreground left is *Apology for Bad Dreams* (Paris: Harry Ward Ritchie, 1937), Jeffers's *ars poetica*, printed as a Ritchie masterproject for Paris printer extraordinaire François-Louis Schmied. To its left is the much-loved Jeffers narrative *The Loving Shepherdess* in a special 1956 edition with original etchings by Jean Kellogg and design by Merle Armitage.

The collection was one of the last available with such breadth and depth, acquired by CSULB in 1975 and augmented ever since. It contains first editions; first issues of every book; many signed copies; every limited signed edition, some with prospectuses laid in; all dust-wrappers; many presentation copies, some double and triple presentations; periodical appearances; all key anthology appearances; every important biographical, bibliographical, and critical work; and a wealth of miscellaneous material: holographs, working drafts, broadsides, exhibition catalogs, foreign editions, theses and dissertations, newsletters, signed photos, intimate family snapshots, and recordings.

Outstanding in the collection are the special private editions mostly of single short poems by Jeffers, designed, illustrated, and published by prominent artists in tribute to Jeffers: *The Beaks of Eagles*, *De Rerum Virtute*, *The House Dog's Grave*, *Hope Is Not for the Wise*, *Natural Music*, *The Ocean's Tribute*, *Return*, *Rhythm & Rhyme*, *Rock & Hawk*, *Stars*, *To the Stone-Cutters*, *Two Consolations*, and so forth—all of them in limited editions as small as ten copies. Ward Ritchie's first attempt at the poem *Stars* is here in two formats, an edition with only six known copies, and *Meditation on Saviors*, one of five copies. Here also are printings of two Jeffers prose pieces: *Poetry*, *Gongorism and a Thousand Years* and *Themes in My Poems*.

Of special note are the collection's manuscripts: nine letters from Jeffers to his sister-in-law Daisy Bartley, including five detailing Una's illness and death, one from his Library of Congress lecture tour, another from New York following the premiere of *Medea*, and an introductory letter to another on his and Una's thoughts on cremation. Of even more significance are manuscripts or typescripts to unpublished poems: twenty lines of working manuscript (signed 4 November 1942), lines intended for a narrative beginning "This old dooryard . . .," and the twenty-three poems finally gathered into the limited edition *Songs and Heroes* (Los Angeles: Arundel Press, 1988), only some of which appear in the fourth volume of Stanford's *Collected Poetry*.

Especially in times of tight institutional budgets, the public might ask: Why would a state university spend precious funds on such superfluities as expensive collectors' items? The answer lies in the almost overwhelming experience of art, here the appreciation of one art form, poetry, by other artists—outstanding designers, illustrators, engravers, printers, sculptors, painters, photographers, linoleum, silk-screen, and woodcut artists—who give tribute to their fellow artist by responding to each Jeffers poem from the prodigal, resonating fullness of their own genius. Each special printing is a unique experience of lavish and compelling "book-art."

Photograph by Robert Freligh, courtesy of Irene Still Meyer, Special Collections, CSULB.

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#### GUIDELINES FOR SUBMISSIONS

Shorter manuscripts, suitable for numbers 1, 2, and 3 of each volume, in two double-spaced copies, should typically range up to 4,000 words. Longer essays should be between 5,000 and 9,000 words. Both should be accompanied by a self-addressed stamped postcard for prompt acknowledgment. The author's name should appear on the initial page only. All copies are non-returnable. Citation of Jeffers's poetry should be from the *Stanford Collected Poetry*, abbreviated *CP*. Until the *Collected Letters* (Stanford) is available, citation of Robinson and Una Jeffers letters should be from Ann Ridgeway's *Selected Letters (SL)* (Johns Hopkins) or from the Una Jeffers Correspondent series in issues of the *Robinson Jeffers Newsletter* (see *RJN* index, issue 100, Fall 1996). Formatting should follow the *MLA Handbook*, fourth edition, with parenthetical citations, endnotes, and works cited. A final revision of an accepted article should be submitted in hard copy and as an IBM-formatted Word file on a 3.5" floppy disk.

# *Robinson Jeffers: A Bibliography of Criticism, 1912–1949*

Robert Brophy

## INTRODUCTION

The annotated listing that follows complements *Robinson Jeffers: A Bibliography of Half a Century of Criticism, 1950–1999* (*Jeffers Studies* 3.3); together they cover the 20th Century's critical reflections on the poet. Successive years will be documented in this journal and on the Jeffers web site.

This compilation selects from, uses, and builds on Alex Vardamis's *The Critical Reputation of Robinson Jeffers* (1972) with added help from Jeanetta Boswell's *Robinson Jeffers and the Critics* (1986), James Karman's *Critical Essays on Robinson Jeffers* (1990), S. S. Alberts's *Bibliography* (1933), the Index to the *Robinson Jeffers Newsletter* (1996), various other bibliographic works, and personal research. Jeffers's comments on critical matters and on his own work are also included. The listing does not intend to be exhaustive. For instance, many entries that Vardamis judges "slight," "trivial," and the like are passed over. A number of articles and book chapters from other, diverse sources were excluded for the same reasons and, of course, some potential entries must be presumed simply to have been missed. Reviews are entered when they bear critical weight, carry useful information, or reveal something concerning the critic or the publication. In essence, this gathering presents a series of annual bibliographies, 1912–1949, recording significant material published each year, starting with the arrival of Jeffers's first book. Reprints are included, usually noted as such. Thus the number of items in no way adds up to an exact count of critical materials retrievable from those thirty-eight years. It seemed useful to attach short summaries, many of them condensations of the abstracts provided by Vardamis, Boswell, others, and the compiler's own research. These brief annotations, usually one or two lines, are certainly inadequate and could even be misleading; they are no more than indications of article or book content. Since other bibliographies have been used as sources, serious researchers are reminded that citations should be verified from original sources lest inaccuracies be perpetuated. The compiler welcomes suggestions of substantial items missed and corrections of errors (write <brophy@csulb.edu> or the editorial address). These will be integrated into

the bibliography as it appears at the World Wide Web *Jeffers Studies Online* site <www.jeffers.org>.

Listing begins with 1912, the year of Jeffers's first book publication, with a review of *Flagons and Apples*. Ostensibly by *Los Angeles Times* staff reviewer William Huntington Wright, the review is by Jeffers himself, submitted under his friend's byline. For the full text see *Robinson Jeffers Newsletter* 47: 8–10 or James Karman's *Critical Essays on Robinson Jeffers* (1990), 35.

Abbreviations: *BA* = *Be Angry at the Sun and Other Poems*; *CA* = *Californians*; *C&OP* = *Cawdor and Other Poems*; *DA* = *The Double Axe and Other Poems*; *D-D* = *Descent to the Dead*; *DJ* = *Dear Judas and Other Poems*; *GYH* = *Give Your Heart to the Hawks and Other Poems*; *M* = *Medea*; *RST* = *Roan Stallion, Tamar, and Other Poems*; *Sol* = *Solstice and Other Poems*; *SC* = *Such Counsels You Gave to Me and Other Poems*; *SP* = *Selected Poetry* (1938); *T* = *Tamar and Other Poems*; *TL* = *Thurso's Landing and Other Poems*; *WPS* = *The Women at Point Sur*; *SM* = *Bennett's Stone Mason of Tor House* (1966); *SL* = *Ridgeway's Selected Letters* (1968).

1912

Wright, Willard Huntington. "The Subtle Passion." *Los Angeles Times: Holiday Book Number 8* December 1912, 17. "First Book." *Colophon* (26 May 1932): 1–8. *RJN* 47 (Dec. 1986): 8–9. [RJ's review of his own *Flagons and Apples*: he has come close to saying something new about love; poetry shows traces of Yeats, Swinburne, and Heine; language fluent, some rhythms forced.]

1916

Braithwaite, William S. *Anthology of Magazine Verse for 1916 and Yearbook of American Poetry*. New York: Gomme, 1916. 238. [*Californians* has "a distinctive value."]

Comment on "He Has Fallen in Love with the Mountains." *Literary Digest* 53 (2 Dec. 1916): 1484. [Introduces reprint of the poem: RJ is rather severe on humanity; misanthropy and misogyny meant to highlight his love of nature.]

"In the Realm of Bookland." *Overland Monthly* 68 (Dec. 1916): 570. [*CA*: RJ's bent toward descriptive narrative, a harbinger.]

Jeffers, Robinson. "The Alpine Christ" (unpublished). [It is worth noting that RJ wrote this, his first play, in 1916, at least according to William Everson in the Cayucos Books edition, finally published in 1974 (Una put the date at 1918). Everson's preface, introduction, afterward, and notes point out RJ's developing craft at this juncture, especially in the realm of dialogue.]

———. "A Note About Places." *Californians*. New York: Macmillan, 1916. 215–17. [RJ describes the Monterey Peninsula historically and geologically, then the Santa Lucia Mountains, forests, and skies; ends with a short glossary or gazetteer of name places, attributing his plots to the nature of the country.]

Wilkinson, Marguerite. "Concerning Another California Poet." *Los Angeles Graphic* 49 (11 Nov. 1916): 4. [RJ is in the tradition of California poets.]

1917

- "Californians in Poetry." *Republican* [Springfield, MA] 18 Jan. 1917, 6. [Compares RJ's nature poetry with Frost's.]
- Firkins, O. W. "Chez Nous." *Nation* 105 (11 Oct. 1917): 400–401. [RJ shows masculinity and pungency of verse, symbolic value in localism, bravado.]

1920

- Henderson, W. B. Drayton. Letter from Macmillan Company, 2 Apr. 1920, rejecting an early version of *Tamar and Other Poems*; see *Brides of the South Wind*, edited with preface, introduction, afterword, and notes by William Everson. [Cayucos, CA]: Cayucos Books, 1974. [The rejection notes "very unpleasant and fleshy incidents," "ignoble aspects of life," "duty to the real and perfect," and what Macmillan patrons ought not want to read (page 134).]

1922

- Bostick, Daisy F., "Carmel and the Creative Arts." *Carmel Pine Cone* 6 July 1922, 6. [RJ recognized as a local California poet of note.]
- Jeffers, Robinson. "Fragments of the Introduction to 'Brides of the South Wind.'" Dated by author June 1922; see Alberts (1933). [It is worth noting that "Brides of the South Wind" (unpublished until 1974) gathered into a table of contents much of the poetry that appeared in the 1924 *Tamar and Other Poems*; commentary on their editorial challenge and value can be found in William Everson's 1974 Cayucos publication.]
- Rede, Kenneth. "Seven Books of Verse." *Baltimore Sun* 9 Aug. 1924, 6. [*Tamar*: "painfully crude throughout"; scarcely a redeeming line; abominably printed.]
- Rorty, James, and anon. "Across the Editor's Desk." *Sunset Magazine* 53 (Oct. 1924): 51. ["Unique accomplishment in English poetry"; editors call the book "loathesome."]

1925

- Benét, William Rose. "From Pieria to Mediocria." *Outlook* 141 (30 Dec. 1925): 674–78. [Difficult to shock the age; "Tamar" powerful.]
- B[rickell], H[ershel]. "Books on Our Table." *New York Post* 8 Dec. 1925, 14. ["Soul-harrowing . . . a great symphony."]
- Daly, James. "Roots Under the Rocks." *Poetry* 26 (Aug. 1925): 278–85. [Genuine passion, ruggedness of imagery, magnificent rhythms.]
- Deutsch, Babette. "Brains and Lyrics." *New Republic* 43 (27 May 1925): 23–24. [Reading "Tamar" is like Keats looking into Chapman's Homer; oriental philosophy.]
- Jeffers, Robinson. Autobiographical note in "Prospectus: for *Roan Stallion, Tamar and Other Poems*." [Facsimile in Alberts. 30. Early memories, education, marriage; Carmel as "inevitable place."]
- Moore, Virginia. "Two Books." *Voices* 5 (Nov. 1925): 70–72. ["Tamar" weak in characterization, lacks subtlety, but power incontrovertible; high voltage.]
- "Pacific Headlands." *Time* 5 (30 Mar. 1925): 12. [He sings by instinct like Whitman, hurls images, casts spells, dreams beauty.]
- Rorty, James. "In Major Mold." *New York Herald Tribune Books* 1 Mar. 1925, 1–12. [Unequaled since Robinson; "Tamar" a magnificent *tour de force*.]

- Sterling, George. "Rhymes and Reactions." *Overland Monthly* 83 (Nov. 1925): 411. ["Tamar" is strongest and most dreadful poem he's ever read; serpents around a jar of poison, horrors of life.]
- Van Doren, Mark. "First Glance." *Nation* 120 (11 Mar. 1925): 268. [Condemns critics and publishers who ignored *T*; few volumes have such force, genius.]

1926

- Auslander, Joseph. "Dark Fire, Black Music." *Measure* 61 (Mar. 1926): 14–15. [Vitality, affinity to Whitman, occasionally maudlin, episodic in strategy.]
- "Book Notes." *University of Chicago English Journal* 15 (Jan. 1926): 86. ["Terrible imaginings . . . bright images."]
- Burgess, R. L. "One Hundred and Three Californians." *Poetry* 27 (Jan. 1926): 217–21. [Reviews *Continent's End*. Reprinted in *San Jose Evening News* 4 Feb. 1926, sec. 1: 6. "A very great Californian."]
- Dell, Floyd. "Shell-Shock and the Poetry of Robinson Jeffers." *Modern Quarterly* 3 (Sept.–Dec. 1926): 268–73. [Marxist rejects RJ's philosophical pessimism.]
- Deutsch, Babette. "Bitterness and Beauty." *New Republic* 45 (10 Feb. 1926): 338–39. [Compares RJ with Whitman in form, timelessness, and power.]
- Eldridge, Paul. "Literary Shots and Snapshots." *American Monthly* 17 (Feb. 1926): 373. [Freudian criticism and comparison with Whitman.]
- Farrar, John. "A Furious Poet from Pittsburgh." *Bookman* 62 (Jan. 1926): 604. [Amazing powers of expression; lines of great strength and beauty; an unforgettable and thoroughly unpleasant performance; readers will be horrified by magnificent but perverse imagining, yet imparting the quality of Greek myth.]
- Fitch, W. T. "Is There Literary and Artistic Culture in California?" *Overland Monthly* 84 (Dec. 1926): 391, 408. [Protests the Eastern Establishment, using RJ as a case of its slighting.]
- Ford, Lillian. "New Major Poet Emerges." *Los Angeles Times* 11 Apr. 1926, sec. 3: 34. [Major poet, greatest America has produced; passion and intensity; recalls Christopher Marlowe.]
- Humphries, Rolfe. "Hail Cal-i-forn-i-aye." *New York Herald Tribune* 7 Feb. 1926, 9. [Marxist critic reviews *Continent's End*: RJ is best when least like Whitman.]
- Hutchison, Percy. "An Elder Poet and a Young One Greet the New Year." *New York Times Book Review* 3 Jan. 1926, 14+. [RJ shows new freedom in use of theme and material, many of his pages equaled only by the great.]
- "Jeffers' Poetry Vivid and Bold: Has Great Power." *Tennyssean* (27 Dec. 1925): N. pag. [Reaches grass roots, daring and astounding.]
- Jeffers, Robinson. "A Great Poet on Sterling." *Carmel Cymbal* 2 (24 Nov. 1926): 8. [RJ as biographical and literary critic. Alberts. 97, 135–36.]
- . "All the Corn in One Barn." *Lights and Shadows from the Lantern* 1.7 (Nov. 1926): 1. [Powell. Introduction (1932). 214–15. Alberts. 1933. 97, 133–35. Decision to write only poetry; regrets poetry has lost scope and is inept to deal with real life.]
- Lehman, Benjamin H. Review of *RST*. *California Monthly* 2.1 (27 Mar. 1926): 37. [Indubitable promise of greatness; rhythms hewn from coast range granite.]
- Leitch, Mary. "Books and Letters." *Virginian-Pilot* (3 Mar. 1926): 6. [Salacious, a riot of lust; lyricism exquisite.]
- Mencken, Henry L. "Books of Verse." *American Mercury* 8 (June 1926): 251–54. [Fine and stately dignity, rare virtue of simplicity, promises to be enduring.]
- Monroe, Harriet. "Pomp and Power." *Poetry* 28 (June 1926): 160–64. [*RST*: revolting material; lack of taste and restraint.]



- “Pagan Horror from Carmel-by-the-Sea.” [San Francisco Catholic] *Monitor* 67 (9 Jan. 1926): 8. [RJ admired but called “intrinsically terrible” and scarring.]
- Seaver, Edwin. “Robinson Jeffers’ Poetry.” *Saturday Review of Literature* 2 (16 Jan. 1926): 492. [From *New Masses* founder: RJ a primitive; opposite to Whitman.]
- Shipley, Joseph. “Blending of Pity & Horror in Work of Firm-Fisted Poet.” *New York Post* 17 Apr. 1926, 4. [Compares Whitman, Swinburne, Browning, and Greeks; pity and horror purging the soul.]
- Sterling, George. “A Tower by the Sea.” *San Francisco Review* 1 (Feb.–Mar. 1926): 248–49. [Reprinted in *Carmel Cymbal* 1 (15 June 1926): 9. Superior to Frost and Robinson; a nova new star.]
- . *Robinson Jeffers: The Man and the Artist*. New York: Boni and Liveright, 1926. [First book-length study; poet friend; laudatory.]
- Valentine, Uffington. “The Poetry of Robinson Jeffers.” *Argonaut* 98 (13 Mar. 1926): 8. [“Sheer horror and wild lubricity”; resembles decadent Ford, Middleton, and Webster.]

1927

- “Again Jeffers.” *Time* 10 (1 Aug. 1927): 31–32. [Gives plot summaries, compares RJ with Homer, Sophocles.]
- Auslander, Joseph, and Frank E. Hill. *The Winged Horse*. Garden City, NY: Doubleday, Page and Co., 1927. 411. [Brief mention in anthology for young readers.]
- Bland, Henry Meade. “The Poetry of Today.” *Overland Monthly* 85 (Dec. 1927): 373–75. [Criticizes RJ’s pessimism and violence.]
- “Book Notices.” *University of Chicago English Journal* 16 (Nov. 1927): 749. [WPS “a tremendous and terrible novel in verse . . . the glowing intensity of Oedipus.”]
- Braithwaite, William Stanley. *Anthology of Magazine Verse for 1927 and Yearbook of American Poetry*. Boston: Brimmer, 1927. xiv. [Notes WPS; compares RJ with James Branch Cabell.]
- Broun, Heywood. Rev. of Sterling’s *Robinson Jeffers*. *Carmel Cymbal* 3 (23 Feb. 1929): 16. [Ironic put-down and inaccurate biographical detail regarding RJ.]
- Cestre, Charles. “Robinson Jeffers.” *Revue Anglo-Américain* 4 (Aug. 1927): 489–502. [RJ’s work has mark of great poetry; influence of Whitman and Poe.]
- DeCasseres, Benjamin. “Robinson Jeffers: Tragic Terror.” *Bookman* 66 (Nov. 1927): 262–66. [Extreme adulation, exaggerated claims; Carmel is to Jeffers as Wessex to Hardy.]
- Deutsch, Babette. “Or What’s a Heaven For?” *New Republic* 51 (17 Aug. 1927): 341. [Profundities too obscure; its drama moiled with an irrelevant sordidness.]
- Eisenberg, Emmanuel. “A Not So Celestial Choir.” *Bookman* 46 (Sept. 1927): 102. [RJ’s misanthropy equaled only by Jonathan Swift.]
- “Eliot and Crane Give Poetry Grand Style.” *Miami [Fla.] News* 7 Aug. 1927, 3. [RJ contrasted with them—part agony, part ecstasy.]
- Field, Sarah Bard. “Memories of George Sterling.” *Overland Monthly* 85 (Nov. 1927): 334–35. [Sterling was John the Baptist to RJ’s Christ.]
- Gorman, Herbert. “Jeffers, Metaphysician.” *Saturday Review of Literature* 4 (17 Sept. 1927): 115–16. [“A core of willful urges, sexual obsessions, fogginess of utterance, undisciplined ardors, prophetic predilections.”]
- Hansen, Harry. “The Dark Jeffers.” *New York World* 19 July 1927, 11. [RJ offers much that is unsavory and uncalled for.]

- Hutchison, Percy. "Robinson Jeffers Attempts a New Beauty." *New York Times Book Review* 11 Sept. 1927, 5. [WPS not equal to earlier work; lacks restraint, honesty; the bald, reeking confession of a psychopath.]
- Jones, Howard Mumford. "Dull Naughtiness." *Chicago News* 3 Aug. 1927, 14. [Extraordinary passages but an excess of sex, insanity, and perversity; Jones repudiates the article's title following Carpenter's questioning it in *American Literature* 12 (Mar. 1940): 108.]
- Jeffers, Robinson. Answers to Questionnaire "Are Artists People?" *New Masses* (Jan. 1927): 5–9. [Alberts, 1933. 98, 138–39. *SL*. 103–04. [RJ: culture is not yet decadent; artists cannot change society; revolutionaries end up exploitative.]
- . "Poetry and Real Poetry." *The Advance* 12 (1 Apr. 1927): 12. [Review of Rorty's *Children of the Sun and Other Poems*. Alberts. 140–43. [Here is intensity, sympathy, and truth, but RJ rejects Rorty's revolutionary poems as naïve.]
- . "Song of Triumph." [Initially unpublished opera libretto for mythic human apocalypse: Attis dies of self-mutilation; Earth Mother Mara fails in renewing life; stabbed by her father, she dies celebrating the evolution, courage, discoveries, and endurance of humanity; George Antheil to do the music; Otto Kahn to be producer. See *SL*. 108. *RJN* 73: 4.]
- McClure, John. "Literature and Less." *Times-Picayune* [New Orleans] 20 Nov. 1927, 4. [RJ's poetry lacks the sanity found in excellent poetry.]
- Markham, Edwin, ed. *The Book of Poetry*. Vol. 1. New York: William Wise & Co. 705. [Introduces Jeffers.]
- Morrow, Walter. "Jeffers's Sardonic Smile at Futility of Life is Fanned with Mockery." *Daily Oklahoman* 9 Oct. 1927, 15c. [The masses will not care for it.]
- Neidhardt, John G. "Hysterics." *St. Louis Post-Dispatch* 9 July 1927, 5. [WPS jumbled and pointless, overwrought, incredible caterwauling.]
- "Our Bookshelf." *Step Ladder* 13 (Nov. 1927): 273. [Calls WPS "literature of putrescence"; contrasts with Hardy.]
- "Our Thinking Work." *Chicago Schools Journal* 9 (Apr. 1927): 317–18. [Pantheism; compared with Matthew Arnold; sustained excellence.]
- Pollard, Lancaster. "Jeffers an Example of Modernism." *Seattle Post-Intelligencer* 14 Aug. 1927: 6d. [RS and WPS reveal vivid imagination.]
- Ramsay, Joan. Rev. of WPS. *Overland Monthly* 85 (Nov. 1927): 340–41. [Bitter credo, powerful description, hideous subject matter, leaves exhausted.]
- Roedder, Karsten. "Prose Extracts to Test Lyrical Qualities of Two Great Modern American Poets." *Brooklyn Citizen* 3 July 1927, 7. [Comparison of RJ's WPS with E. A. Robinson's *Tristram*.]
- Rorty, James. "Satirist or Metaphysician?" *New Masses* 3 (Sept. 1927): 26. [WPS equals dry puppets dancing; RJ's physical and moral isolation unfortunate and dangerous.]
- Traggard, Genieve. "The Deliberate Annihilation." *New York Herald Tribune Books* 28 Aug. 1927, 3. [Bothered by RJ's preoccupation with cruelty.]
- Van Doren, Mark. "First Glance." *Nation* 125 (27 July 1927): 88. [Wonders at the need to try further in this direction; RJ is knocking his head against the night.]
- Wilson, James Southall. "American Poetry—1927." *Virginia Quarterly Review* 3 (Oct. 1927): 611–14. [RJ offers sustained interest and vigor but a stench of decadent art.]
- Winters, Yvor. "Robinson Jeffers' Rich but Violent Narrative Poems." *Philadelphia Public Ledger* 2 July 1927. [Review of WPS.]

- Davis, H. L. "Jeffers Denies Us Twice." *Poetry* 31 (Feb. 1928): 274–79. ["The Women at Point Sur" lacks humanity, sympathy, pity, love, but every page is a triumph.]
- DeCasseres, Benjamin. "Robinson Jeffers: Tragic Terror." *An Artist*. Ed. John S. Mayfield. Austin: privately printed, 1928. [Admiration overflowing.]
- Ellis, Havelock. Letter to Jeffers as crusader for sexual freedom. *An Artist*. Ed. John S. Mayfield. Austin: privately printed, 1928.
- Flint, Frank Stewart. "Recent Verse." *Criterion* [London] 8 (Dec. 1928): 345–46. [RST: A tragic poet; gripping; imagery, movement, pathos gives intense pleasure.]
- Graham, Bessie. *The Bookman's Manual*. New York: Bowker, 1928. 186. ["Tragic folk tales of Northern California in epical verse."]
- Hutchison, Percy. "Mr. Robinson Jeffers Brings Hamlet to California" ["Cawdor" brings Theseus and Hippolytus!]. *New York Times Book Review* 16 Dec. 1928, 2.
- Jeffers, Robinson. "The Author Explains." *Cawdor and Other Poems*. New York: Horace Liveright, 1928. Dust jacket. [Alberts. 50–51. "Tamar" looks westward; "The Women at Point Sur" looks upward; "Cawdor" looks eastward against the earth; races drizzle away; is the earth amused or sorry; short poems: the common sense of our predicament.]
- . Comments on "The Women at Point Sur." Letter to Rorty, 5 Aug. 1927. *Carmelite* (12 Dec. 1928): 12. [Adamic (1929). 39. Alberts. 37–39. *SL* #122. RJ regrets seeming to romanticize immoral freedom in "Tamar"; "The Women at Point Sur" warns of Barclay-like hatred disguised as love, condemns introversion, and urges transvaluation of values; it is tragic exhibition of essential elements, a psychological study of delusion, a study of the origins of religion, and a judgment on a decadent civilization.]
- . "Is the Sky Broken?" *New York Tribune Books* 2 Dec. 1928, 4. [Review of Van Doren's *Now the Sky and Other Poems*. New York: Boni, 1928. Alberts. 99, 147–50. Van Doren's poetry is atonement between the American earth and its people.]
- . Letter excerpt to Witter Bynner on criticism of *WPS*. *Carmelite* (12 Dec. 1928): 4. [Alberts. 39. RJ writes out of conflicts and stresses; is petulant at the broken balance between people and the world.]
- . Note on title poem. *An Artist*. Austin: John S. Mayfield, 1928, [8]. [Facsimile of title page in Alberts. 46. RJ was reading Wilde's *The Soul of Man Under Socialism*; it projected a desired independence to the artist.]
- . "The Rhythm." *Carmelite* (12 Dec. 1928): 5. [Alberts. 150. Chooses rhythm, not rhyme, number of beats to the line; sources are from physics, biology, pulse, and tides.]
- . "Tragic Themes." *Carmelite* (12 Dec. 1928): 5. [Alberts. 150. Every personal story ends in tragedy; comedy is an unfinished story; the impersonal and universal story is never finished and is neither merry nor sad; good and evil are balanced; we are not ill-used.]
- Jolas, Eugene. *Anthologie de la Nouvelle Poesie Americaine*. Paris: Simon Kra, 1928. 186. [Includes translation of "Roan Stallion" with a brief biographical and critical note.]
- Kantor, MacKinlay. "Plenty of Sex and Plenty of Bible." *Voices* 7 (Feb. 1928): 180–83. [Review of *A Miscellany of American Poetry: 1927*, in which RJ had key poems not reprinted until 1935.]
- Lehman, Benjamin H. Foreword. *Poems*. San Francisco: Grabhorn, 1928. v–xii. [Superiority of RJ's lyrics, authentic and beautiful, informed by neutral science.]
- Morris, Lawrence. "Robinson Jeffers: The Tragedy of a Modern Mystic." *New Republic* 54 (16 May 1928): 386–90. [Reviews RJ's books of intensity, passion, and scope of thought; the public has not assimilated him; RJ asks the large questions but ends seeking the peace and oblivion of death.]

- O., Y. [A. E., George Russell]. Review of *RST*. *Irish Statesman* 11 (24 Nov. 1928): 234, 236. [Primitive, barbaric, vitality of a Whitman.]
- Rowntree, Lester. "Flora of the Jeffers Country." *Carmelite* 1 (12 Dec. 1928): 10–11. [Botanical data regarding slopes and canyons.]
- Salemson, H. J. "A Gallery of Americans." *Poetry* 33 (Dec. 1928): 165–66. [Assessment of Eugene Jolas's *Anthology of New American Poetry* (above); wide panorama of verse from 126 poets of every school and movement; no evaluation.]
- Sandburg, Carl. "The Judgment of His Peers." *Carmelite* 1 (12 Dec. 1928): 5. [RJ an equal to Balboa, discovering the Pacific as a literary source.]
- Singleton, Anne. "A Major Poet." *New York Herald Tribune Books* 23 Dec. 1928, 5. [Most powerful, most challenging poetry of this generation.]
- Steffens, Lincoln. "Jeffers the Neighbor." *Carmelite* 1 (12 Dec. 1928): 1–3. [RJ's use of cement in building, life, family, poetry.]
- Untermeyer, Louis. *Modern American and British Poetry*. New York: Harcourt, Brace & Co., 1928. 221–22. [Compares with Sophocles and Whitman; piles on catastrophes with little humor and less restraint; elemental power.]
- Wilson, Edmund. Rev. of 1927 *Miscellany*. *New Republic* 53 (8 Feb. 1928): 330. [Grandiose, original, and distinguished lyrics.]

1929

- Adamic, Louis. "Robinson and Una Jeffers: A Portrait of a Great American Poet and His Wife." *San Franciscan* 3 (Mar. 1929): 6, 29. [Unquestionably has grown since publishing third-rate story "Mirrors" in the *Smart Set* in 1913.]
- . *Robinson Jeffers: A Portrait*. Seattle: U of Washington Bookstore, 1929. [Admiring: "strange verse of excessive intensity and terribleness."]
- Aiken, Conrad. "Unpacking Hearts with Words." *Bookman* 68 (Jan. 1929): 576–77. ["Cawdor" a nightmare novel in loose prose-verse; for all its monstrosities and absurdities and excessive use of symbolism, a very interesting thing.]
- Arvin, Newton. "The Paradox of Jeffers." *New Freeman* 1 (17 May 1930): 230–32. [Review of *DJ*: poetry too aloof but capable of much.]
- Brown, M. Webster. "A Poet Who Studied Medicine." *Medicine Journal-Record* 130 (6 Nov. 1929): 535–39. [RJ's use of medical knowledge in his poetry.]
- DeCasseres, Benjamin. *The Superman in America*. Seattle: U of Washington Bookstore, 1929, 22–25, 27. [A Nietzschean gives high praise; finds in RJ Aeschylus, Shakespeare, Chopin, Blake, Coleridge, De Quincy, Baudelaire, Dostoyevsky, D'Annunzio, Dante, Wagner, Nietzsche's Antichrist and Superman.]
- Deutsch, Babette. "Brooding Eagle." *New Republic* 57 (16 Jan. 1929): 253. [RJ has lost none of immense power but fails to use it throughout "Cawdor."]
- . "The Future of Poetry." *New Republic* 60 (21 Aug. 1929): 12–15. [RJ, like Yeats, probes theosophical thought, a vision of the universe large enough to inform a long philosophical poem, though terrible.]
- Drinkwater, John, William Rose Benét, and Henry Seidel Canby, eds. *Twentieth Century Poetry*. Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1929. 379. [RJ is poet of the greatest stature that the Far West can claim; overshadows most writers.]
- Ficke, Arthur Davidson. "A Note on the Poetry of Sex." *Sex in Civilization*. Eds. Victor Francis Calverton and Samuel Schmalhausen. New York: Macaulay Co., 1929. 666–67. [Freudian criticism: RJ's nightmare sex designs repel; his aim is to blast the human universe apart.]

- Hale, William Harlen. "Jeffers Refines His Fury." *Yale Daily News Literary Supplement* 4 (21 Nov. 1929): 1, 6. [*DJ* review: vastness, space-straining stature, qualities from Bible, the Greeks, Blake, Whitman, and Milton.]
- . "Robinson Jeffers: A Lone Titan." *Yale Literary Magazine* 95 (Dec. 1929): 31–35. [From the Greeks, immutable destiny; from Whitman, mysticism but based on despair "under a canopy of endless orbits."]
- Hillyer, Robert. "Five American Poets." *New Adelphi* 2 (Mar.–May 1929): 280–82. [Review of *RST*: his skill professional, his subjects revolting morbidity.]
- "Hogarth Living Poets." [London] *Times Literary Supplement* 21 Mar. 1929, 239. [Freudian Criticism: RJ describing the unconscious mind; review of *RST*.]
- Hutchison, Percy. "Robinson Jeffers Writes Two Passion Plays." *New York Times Book Review* 1 Dec. 1929, 12. [*DJ* amorphous and muddy, surging line is strong.]
- Jeffers, Robinson. Comment on incest as symbol. *Adamic* (1929). 28. [Alberts. 9. Incest symbolizes racial introversion (in "Tamar," "The Tower Beyond Tragedy," "The Women at Point Sur"), the founding of values, desires, vision on one's humanity; cities are incestuous; Barclay's desire of disciples.]
- Johnson, Edward S. "Greece and California." *Yale Daily News Literary Supplement* 3 (23 Jan. 1929): 3. [Influence of Greek Drama; does what Frost does for New England and Sandburg for Chicago.]
- Kreymborg, Alfred. *Our Singing Strength*. New York: Coward McCann, 1929. 173, 264, 284, 295, 624–30. [Brief discussion; RJ philosophical antithesis of Whitman.]
- McWilliams, Carey. "Robinson Jeffers: An Anti-toxin." *L A Saturday Night* 9 (3 Aug. 1929): 5. [Provoking, death-oriented, distasteful, powerful.]
- Manly, J. M., and E. Rickert. *Contemporary American Literature*. New York: Harcourt, Brace & Co., 1929. 204–05. [Most powerful recent poet; wide range.]
- Munson, Graham. "The Young Critics of the Nineteen Twenties." *Bookman* 70 (Dec. 1929): 369–73. [Blossoming new critical talent differently dealing with poets like Jeffers.]
- Murphy, Donald. "Savage, Lovely." *Des Moines Register* 21 July 1929, 8. [Hard reading, mystical flights, like witnessing a great natural force at work.]
- Nicholl, L. T. "New Poetry." *Outlook* 152 (27 Nov. 1929): 509. [Review of "Dear Judas" as lights and shadows, "The Loving Shepherdess" as sweet bush among rocks; love and pity.]
- O'Neill, George. "Poetry from Four Men." *Outlook* 151 (16 Jan. 1929): 110–11. [Symbolism and imagery with the force and irrationality of a dreaming mind.]
- Schmalhausen, Samuel D. "Our Disillusioned Poets." *Our Changing Human Nature*. New York: Macauley Co., 1929. 165–68. [RJ neither rejected nor accepted America; most audacious and creative of modern poets; burning intelligence.]
- Tate, Allen. "American Poetry Since 1920." *Bookman* 68 (Jan. 1929): 503–08. [Much published in 1920s, many movements and circles; in the far West RJ stands alone, his gift for narrative unequalled in England or America, has invented a new narrative style; his symbols of inversion and sterility threaten to make themselves America's.]
- Van Doren, Mark. "Bits of Earth and Water." *Nation* 128 (9 Jan. 1929): 50. [Imitators of Euripides, Sophocles, Shakespeare usually ridiculous, RJ is not.]
- Vivas, Eliseo. "Robinson Jeffers." *New Student* 8 (Apr. 1929): 13–14. [Rejects "hysterical claims" for RJ, whose works lack sense of human dignity.]
- "Walt Whitman Finds Hellas." *New Statesman* 32 (9 Feb. 1929): 572, 574. ["Tamar" on heroic scale; *TBT* is RJ's best.]
- Zabel, Morton. "The Problem of Tragedy." *Poetry* 33 (Mar. 1929): 336–40. ["Cawdor" reveals magnificent nature, technically skilled narrative, full diapason of great power.]

- Arvin, Newton. "The Paradox of Jeffers." *New Freeman* 1 (17 May 1930): 230–32. ["Dear Judas": too aloof, lacks affirmation, but promising.]
- Conklin, G. Review of Kreymborg's *Our Singing Strength*. *Bookman* 70 (Feb. 1930): 685–86. [Whitman and RJ America's greatest and most representative poets, most universal prophets.]
- Deutsch, Babette. "Sweet Hemlock." *New York Herald Tribune Books* 12 Jan. 1930, 4. [Restrained appreciation; RJ offers truth and poetry.]
- Dupee, F. W. Review of *DJ. Miscellany* 1 (Mar. 1930): 34–36. [Characters of "Dear Judas" and "The Loving Shepherdess" more symbolic than real and are mad with disillusionment.]
- Eisenberg, Emanuel. "Jeffers Lends Rich Violence to Christ Legend." *New York Post* 4 Jan. 1930, 65. ["Dear Judas" too much violence; "beautiful and moving."]
- Hillyer, Robert. "Nine Books of Verse." *New Adelphi* 3 (Mar.–May 1930): 232–36. [Re *Cawdor*: RJ's works not worth reading except the shorter poems.]
- Hughes, Richard. "But This Is Poetry." *Forum* 83 (Jan. 1930): vi, viii, x. [*DJ*: RJ's narrative imagination would make him a foremost novelist; the public has no taste for narrative verse.]
- Humphries, Rolfe. "More About Robinson Jeffers." *New Republic* 62 (9 Apr. 1930): 222. [Letter postscript to article: he finds "Dear Judas" in George Moore's *The Brook Kerith* (1905) as also "The Loving Shepherdess" related to post-resurrection Jesus in Moore's book.]
- . "Poet or Prophet?" *New Republic* 61 (15 Jan. 1930): 228–29. [*DJ*: symbol, not sense; romanticism gone somewhat rank, unable to project character.]
- Johnson, Spud. "She Did It." *Carmelite* 3 (29 May 1930): 1, 8–9. [How Mabel Luhan lured RJ to Taos through Una and his sons.]
- Jolas, Eugene. "Literature and the New Man." *Transition* 19–20 (June 1930): 13–19. [Revised notions of beauty, including monstrous; RJ's step beyond Calvinism.]
- Klein, Herbert Arthur. "A Study of the Prosody of Robinson Jeffers." Occidental College thesis, 1930. [RJ uses accentual prosody; narrative poems 10 stress and 5 stress; run-on lines; stresses may alternate 4 and 5, 5 and 3, 10 and 6; punctuation eccentric, allowing line to make own rhythm over grammatical structure.]
- Kresensky, Raymond. "Beloved Judas." *World Tomorrow* 13 (Feb. 1930): 90. [*DJ*: RJ gives expression to a spiritual understanding of tragedy.]
- . "Fire-Burning Cross." *Christian Century* 47 (11 June 1930): 757–58. [Irresistible appeal of the Christ-theme for "apostle of negation."]
- Kreymborg, Alfred, ed. *An Anthology of American Poetry: Lyric America, 1630–1930*. New York: Tudor Publishing, 1930, 489–95. [Five poems; notes the difficulty of anthologizing RJ since his best is in long poems.]
- Lehman, Benjamin. "The Most Significant Tendency in Modern Poetry." *Scripps College Papers* 2 (Mar.–Apr. 1930): 1–12. [Reprinted in *Saturday Review of Literature* 8 (5 Sept. 1931): 97–99. RJ coping with modern science; too negative; needs to trace human proportions of the universe also.]
- MacDonald, Dwight. "Robinson Jeffers: I and II." *Miscellany* 1 (Aug. and Sept. 1930): 1–10 and 1–24. [Dignity and elevation of verse, brilliant master.]
- McWilliams, Carey. *The New Regionalism in American Literature*. Seattle: U of Washington Book Store, 1930. 20, 27. [RJ not a true regional writer because he lacks anti-quarianism, locality of place, a detached viewpoint.]
- . Review of *DJ. Los Angeles Saturday Night* 10 (25 Jan. 1930): 16. [Prefers "The Coast-Range Christ" and "The Tower Beyond Tragedy."]

- . “Writers of California.” *Bookman* 72 (Dec. 1930): 352–59. [RJ towers over California predecessors.]
- More, Paul Elmer. “A Revival of Humanism.” *Bookman* 71 (Mar. 1930): 1–11. [Literature of a universe without purpose degenerates into depictions of sadism.]
- Morrison, Theodore. “A Critic and Four Poets.” *Atlantic Monthly* (Feb. 1930): 24, 26, 28. [“Terrible and harrowing, but full of poetic beauty and power.”]
- National Encyclopedia of American Biography*. New York: James T. White Co., 1930. 829. [Biographical detail, career, critics.]
- Quennell, Peter. “Recent Verse.” *Criterion* 9 (Jan. 1930): 362. [“Cawdor” disturbing: verse consistently vigorous but its beauties belong to prose.]
- Schindler, Duane. “Poet on a Tower.” *Survey Geographic* (Apr. 1930): 46. [Review of *DJ*: “The Loving Shepherdess” RJ’s best so far—in feeling, simplicity of utterance.]
- Tate, Allen. Rev. of Krymborg’s *Our Singing Strength*. *New Republic* 62 (26 Feb. 1930): 511–52. [New Shakespeare must combine Whitman’s love and RJ’s hate.]
- Thompson, Alan Reynolds. “The Dilemma of Modern Tragedy.” *Humanism in America*. Ed. Norman Foerster. New York: Farrar & Rinehart, 1930. 525–27. [No refuge in illusions science shattered; man equals nature, no tragic exaltation.]
- Untermeyer, Louis. “Uneasy Death.” *Saturday Review of Literature* 6 (19 Apr. 1930): 942. [For once RJ allows himself to be kind, in “The Loving Shepherdess.”]
- Van Doren, Mark. “Judas, Savior of Jesus.” *Nation* 130 (1 Jan. 1930): 20–21. [High level of rhetoric in “Dear Judas”; “The Loving Shepherdess” some of RJ’s best work, pathetic, exciting, and beautiful.]
- Walton, Eda Lou. Rev. of *DJ. Symposium* 1 (Jan. 1930): 135–38. [“The Tower Beyond Tragedy” his greatest poem; *RS* his best book; “The Loving Shepherdess” quality far higher than “Dear Judas”; short poems prosaic and thematic if not dogmatic; yet best passages are torches across a wilderness.]
- Winters, Yvor. “Robinson Jeffers.” *Poetry* 35 (Feb. 1930): 279–86. [RJ has no structural principles; Jesus revolting; no quotable lines; “The Loving Shepherdess” a very Wordsworthian embodiment of a kind of maudlin humanitarianism.]

## 1931

- Blankenship, Russell. *American Literature as an Expression of the National Mind*. New York: Henry Holt, 1931. 627–32. [RJ a primitive, lacks compassion for suffering; breathtaking vocabulary.]
- Bushby, D. Maitland. “Poetry of Our Southern Frontier.” *Overland Monthly* 89 (Feb. 1931): 41–42, 48. [How East ignores first-rate western poets; RJ a titan, apex found in *DJ*; psychological approach like Robinson and Masters, outsizes Frost.]
- Calverton, Victor F. *American Literature at the Crossroads*. Seattle: U of Washington Book Store, 1931. 21. [Associated with free verse as are Lowell, Frost, Sandburg, Lindsay, and Whitman; unequivocally American.]
- . “Pathology in Contemporary Literature.” *Thinker* 4 (Dec. 1931): 7–16. [Marxist sees RJ as symptom of dying civilization; his tragedies pathological, the world as miscarriage of fate.]
- Dilly Tante [Stanley Kunitz]. *Living Authors*. New York: Wilson, 1931. 196–97. [RJ “earned the title of the poet of tragic terror.”]
- Dobie, Charles Caldwell. “Literature on the Pacific Coast.” *American Writers on American Literature*. Ed. John Macy. New York: Liveright, 1931. 414–25. [RJ promises a West Coast future in drama: narratives rely on exaggerated force, sing an endless *Dies Irae*; his pessimism deprives final force of greatness.]

- Gregory, Horace. "Jeffers Writes His Testament in New Poems." *New York Post* 31 Dec. 1931, 9. [Marxist critic praises *D-D*.]
- Hicks, Granville. "The Past and Future of William Faulkner." *Bookman* 74 (Sept. 1931): 17–24. [RJ is contemporary Faulkner most resembles, paralleling every offense against human law; RJ writes poetry of annihilation, Faulkner the record of thwarted lives and deaths; both seem men possessed.]
- Jeffers, Robinson. Notes. *Descent to the Dead*. Random House, 1931. 29. [Identifies cairns, dolmens, round towers, ridgeways, New Grange, Antrim, Avebury, Stonehenge, Dozmare Pool.] *GYH*. 151–52. *SP*. 484.
- . "On Poetry" [letter to Professor McCole, May 1930]. Andrew Smithberger and Camille McCole. *On Poetry*. New York: Garden City, 1931. 165–66. [RJ can't define poetry; it needs some verse form, appeal to aesthetic emotion.]
- . "The Stubborn Savior." *New Freeman* (25 Mar. 1931): 42. [Review of Babette Deutsch. *Epistle to Prometheus*. New York: J. Cape & M. Smith, 1931. Alberts. 151–53. Nature of myth; Promethean myth archetype of human will seeking enlightenment and liberation.]
- Karo, Leila M. "Robinson Jeffers." *Present-Day American Literature* 4 (Mar. 1931): 160–65.
- Lanz, Henry. *The Physical Basis of Rime: An Essay on the Aesthetics of Sound*. Stanford: Stanford UP, 1931. 351. [RJ's unusual consonanted environment, "n" and "m," and unaccented vowel in phrases like "humanity is needless."]
- Lawless, Ray M. "Robinson Jeffers: Poet." *Present-Day American Literature* 4 (Mar. 1931): 154–60. [Compares in pantheism to Bryant, in horror to Poe, in probing dark secrets of mind to O'Neill, in free verse to Whitman, in philosophy to Melville and Hardy; RJ's arrival "greatest poetic event in the 1920s."]
- Lehman, Benjamin H. Revision of "The Most Significant Tendency of Modern Poetry" (1930). *Saturday Review of Literature* 8 (5 Sept. 1931): 97–99.
- Lewis, Sinclair. *The American Fear of Literature*. New York: Harcourt, Brace, 1931. 15. [In Nobel speech, Lewis deplors RJ's exclusion from American Academy of Arts and Letters.]
- Markham, Edwin, ed. *Songs and Stories*. Los Angeles: Powell Publishing Co., 1931. 395. [RJ poet of elemental imagination and strange psychological insights.]
- Mencken, Henry L. "Market Report: Poetry." *American Mercury* 24 (Oct. 1931): 8–9. [America's dearth of talent except for Jeffers and Hart Crane.]
- Powell, Lawrence Clark. "Leaves of Grass and Granite Boulders." *Carmelite* 4 (22 Oct. 1931): 8–9. [Compares RJ and Whitman, both nearly home again to Asia.]
- Untermeyer, Louis. "Contemporary Poetry." *American Writers on American Literature*. Ed. John Macy. New York: Horace Liveright, 1931. 10. [RJ sings "endless *Dies Irae*"; works miss deepest element of major poetry.]

1932

- Alberts, Sidney S. "Jeffers's Trip to Ireland." *Contempo* 3 (25 Oct. 1932): 1, 8. [*D-D*: volume on death; RJ's poetry does not thrive on transplanting.]
- Austin, Mary. *Earth Horizon*. Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1932. 354. [Expects to meet RJ in Taos.]
- Belitt, Ben. "Cataclysmic Disaster and High Emotion." *Denver Post* 10 Apr. 1932, 6. [Shines with special brilliance in comparison with Frost and Robinson.]
- Benét, William Rose. "Jeffers' Latest Work" [*GYH*]. *Saturday Review of Literature* 8 (2 Apr. 1932): 638. [Style loose and prolix, certain qualities of greatness. Reprinted in



- Canby. *Design for Reading: An Anthology Drawn from the Saturday Review of Literature 1924–1937*. New York: Macmillan, 1937. 234–38.
- . “Round About Parnassus.” *Saturday Review of Literature* 8 (16 Jan. 1932): 461. [D-D: range if pondering and power of language.]
- Brickell, Herschell. “The Literary Landscape.” *North American Review* 233 (June 1932): 576. [RJ gazes into the abyss, discerns things in blackness.]
- Calverton, Victor F. *The Liberation of American Literature*. New York: Charles Scribner’s Sons, 1932. 472–74. [Marxist on Jeffers and O’Neill as in despair; never such desperately dooming poetry, such mad, chaotic, crucifying verse.]
- Canby, Henry Seidel. “The Pulitzer Prizes.” *Saturday Review of Literature* 8 (23 Apr. 1932): 677. [The prize should have gone to DJ.]
- Cantwell, Robert. “Robinson Jeffers Better Novelist Than Poet.” *New York World Telegram* 29 Mar. 1932, 23. [Prefers RJ’s ideas to his poetry, as novelist is better than D. H. Lawrence; Lawrence better poet.]
- Cunningham, J. V. “Modern Poets.” *Commonweal* 16 (5 Oct. 1932): 540. [RJ is vendor of loose emotion; expresses only undistinguished exasperation.]
- DeCasseres, Benjamin. “Robinson Jeffers.” *UNC Daily Tarheel* 24 Jan. 1932, 1. [Aeschylus in Main Street(!) will be read in fifty years with Cabell.]
- Deutsch, Babette. “Comfort in Hell.” *New York Herald Tribune Books* 31 Jan. 1932, 6. [In D-D he has looked on life and death and feared neither.]
- . “The Hunger of Pain.” *New York Herald Tribune Books* 27 Mar. 1932, 7. [TL: urgency and power, comparable to Shakespeare and Homer, superior to O’Neill.]
- Flint, F. S. “Verse Chronicle.” *Criterion* 11 (Jan. 1932): 276–81. [In the grand manner of the prophets, RJ tells sad stories of the death of gods, kings, and shepherdesses . . . a lonely figure changing the ancient heroic virtues and measures.]
- Gibson, W. H., and Philip Horton. “Robinson Jeffers: Pro . . . [and] Con.” *Nassau Lit* 91 (Nov. 1932): 284–96. [Una’s rebuttal on RJ’s psychoanalysis in *Nassau Lit* 91 (Jan. 1933): 41.]
- Gregory, Horace. “Jeffers Again Hurls Indictment at Civilization.” *New York Post* 31 Mar. 1932, 9. [Accomplished story-teller, but Spenglerian gloom and its philosophical fallacies threaten to engulf Jeffers entirely on road to suicide.]
- Grover, Beth. “Robinson Jeffers Suffers From Being Lionized.” *Carmel Pine Cone* 15 July 1932, 7. [Danger from increase of visitors; will need a moat or a new island.]
- “Harrowed Morrow.” *Time* 19 (4 Apr. 1932): 63–64 and cover. [TL: some women, even his wife, protest his forbidden themes; but clear vision.]
- Hicks, Granville. “A Transient Sickness.” *Nation* 134 (13 Apr. 1932): 433. [Marxist critic: “Thurso’s Landing” perhaps the most human poem he has written.]
- Horton, Philip. “Robinson Jeffers: Con.” *Nassau Lit* 91 (Nov. 1932): 17–23. [Jungian analysis: RJ lags behind other poets: muddy emotionalism, insularity, intellectual immaturity in light of the day’s problems; deserves condemnation.]
- Hughes, Robert N. “Poetic Technique in the Verse of Edna St. Vincent Millay, Robinson Jeffers, and Edwin Arlington Robinson.” Ohio State University thesis, 1932. [RJ’s characters individual but not psychologically revealed; scenes source of metaphor and mood; emphasis on wild; conventional metrics.]
- Humphries, Rolfe. “Two Books by Jeffers.” *Poetry* 40 (June 1932): 157. [TL: Marxist critic rejects RJ’s “arty” response to the world; paralysis of will so great that he can neither quit crying nor fight back.]
- Hutchison, Percy. “New Books of Poetry.” *New York Times Book Review* 31 Jan. 1932, 11. [D-D: magical in tone and rhythm but philosophically futile as a response to reality.]

- . “Robinson Jeffers’s Dramatic Poem of Spiritual Tragedy.” *New York Times Book Review* April 1932, 2. [Terrifying beauty, more pertinent to life.]
- Jeffers, Robinson. Answer to Questionnaire. Letter, 9 Nov. 1932, to Ms. Jeremy Ingalls, appendix to her Tufts University thesis “Metaphysical Aspects of American Poetry.” *SL* #213. [Values Shelley, Wordsworth, Yeats, Milton, Tennyson, Greek tragedies and lyrics; early reading Swinburne and Rosetti; his philosophy from science, Lucretius, Wordsworth; influence of Shakespeare and King James Bible; Poe and Emerson of interest, never Whitman.]
- . “First Book.” *The Colophon* 10 (1932): 1–8. [Reprinted in Alberts. 89–90, 153–56. Elmer Adler, ed. *Breaking into Print*. 1937. [1–8.] RJ lost mss for *Flagons and Apples* in a bar and rewrote from memory; difficulty disposing of copies; surprised that *CA* was accepted; stored unsold copies of *T* in attic.]
- . Letter response to James Rorty [Apr. 1932]. Alberts. 139n. *SL*. 140n. [Industrial civilization distorts human nature; loss of earth contact; Communism further in wrong direction; security rots soul; the whole is fated but one can stand apart.]
- . Letter to Herbert Klein regarding thesis on RJ’s prosody. Alberts. 150n. [Stresses counted with regard for quantities of unstressed; no rule; matter of ear and rhythmic sense; English offers verse choices yet untouched.]
- . Remarks on dust jacket regarding poet and friend Sarah Bard Field’s *Barabbas*. New York: Boni, 1932. [Printed as book review. *New York Times* 24 Oct. 1932, 16, and in Boni fall 1932 catalog. Alberts. 236. Sees her theme as sublimation of an oppressed people’s rancor.]
- Jeffers, Una. “A Correction.” *Nassau Lit* (Jan. 1933): 41. [RJ “extremely interested in the theories of Freud and Jung,” but can’t affirm therapeutic value; never been psychoanalyzed (as claimed); has extraordinary serenity.]
- Johns, Orrick. *Carmel Pine Cone* 15 Jan. 1932, 5. [No living Irish poet could have made *D-D* subjects more authentic.]
- Knight, Grant C. *American Literature and Culture*. New York: Long & Smith, 1932. 464, 465, 476–77. [*TL* a carnival of madness, quality Shakespearean.]
- Lewisohn, Ludwig. *Expression in America*. New York: Harper & Brothers, 1932. 583. [Leaves the real power and unconvincing Titanism of RJ to the future.]
- Luhan, Mabel Dodge. *Lorenzo in Taos*. New York: Alfred Knopf, 1932. [Mabel’s efforts to “seduce” Lawrence written as letter to RJ, he being the only artist worthy to be Lawrence’s successor.]
- MacDonald, Edward. “Robinson Jeffers’s New Work a Moving Search for Peace.” *Philadelphia Record* (27 Mar. 1932): 7. [*TL*: old sense of disappointment that a lovely hope has been deferred.]
- Masters, Edgar Lee. “The Poetry Revival of 1914.” *American Mercury* 26 (July 1932): 272–80. [“Tamar,” though not from 1914 era, was central; RJ abandoned rhymes and old forms, adopted long line suiting his genius; great imagination, subtlety, courage, and power.]
- Monroe, Harriet, and Alice Corbin Henderson. *The New Poetry*. New edition. New York: Macmillan, 1932. 719–20. [Anthology, notes RJ’s unabashed sincerity, long lines, extreme of horror.]
- Pinckney, Josephine. “Jeffers and MacLeish.” *Virginia Quarterly Review* 8 (July 1932): 443–47. [*TL* reviewed with Macleish’s *Conquistador*; sees emphasis on sculptural, masculine, and Saxon qualities.]
- Powell, Lawrence Clark. *An Introduction to Robinson Jeffers*. Imprimerie Bernigaud and Privat, 1932. [U of Dijon dissertation, 1932. Assesses RJ’s narratives, lyrics, style, philosophy; quotes Eliot: RJ “first-rate poet.”]

- Rorty, James. "Symbolic Melodrama." *New Republic* 71 (18 May 1932): 24–25. [Expresses the death-wish of a spent civilization, enthusiasm for basalt and grave mags-gots.]
- Smith, Chard Powers. *Pattern and Variation in Poetry*. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1932. 118, 146, 147–48, 154, 235–37, 316, 366, 383, 387–90. [Discusses RJ's accents, cadences, pseudo-lines; not free verse; pioneer; compares to Hart Crane.]
- Tate, Allen. "A Note on Donne." *New Republic* 70 (6 Apr. 1932): 212–13. [RJ part of historical consciousness, performing fusion of literary psychology with fictitious primitivism.]
- Thompson, Alan Reynolds. "The Cult of Cruelty." *Bookman* 74 (Jan.–Feb. 1932): 477–87. [RJ outdoes Faulkner in horror but thereby destroys aesthetic distance.]
- Towne, Charles H. "A Number of Things." *New York American* 1 Apr. 1932, 13. [Compares with Whitman; power to evoke a scene, a sense of loneliness and destruction.]
- Untermeyer, Louis. "Five Notable Poets." *Yale Review* 21 (Summer 1932): 815–17. [RJ philosophically negative, repetitious, dismal; poetically undeviating, full-throated, remarkable in harrowing drama; poetry we may never forget.]
- Walton, Edna Lou. Rev. of *D-D. Nation* 134 (3 Feb. 1932): 146. [Re *TL*: complains of RJ's taste, praises his lyrics' poetic line.]
- Ward, A. C. *American Literature 1880–1930*. London: Methuen, 1932. 201–02. [Majesty and immensity; love and pity; shock of surprise; poetic voice.]
- Winters, Yvor. Rev. of *TL. Hound and Horn* 5 (July–Sept. 1932): 681, 684–85. [Dogged and soggy melodrama; incapable of the virtues of prose or poetry; an endless, violent monotony of movement, uninteresting, insensitive, hypnotic effect of jolting railroad coach over a bad road-bed; almost wholly trash.]
- Zorn, Gremin. "A Novel in Verse." *Long Island Press* 10 Apr. 1932, 28. [Compares with Faulkner; title poem "Thurso's Landing" rich in narrative and imagery.]

1933

- Alberts, Sidney Seymour. *A Bibliography of the Works of Robinson Jeffers*. New York: Random House, 1933. [Primary and secondary material; RJ preface; technical description of each issue; unpublished fragments; uncollected poems.]
- Benét, William Rose, ed. *Fifty Poets*. New York: Duffield & Green, 1933. 87–89. [Poet-selected works; judges RJ's form loose and elastic; power ever apparent.]
- Brooks, Philip. Review of Alberts's *Bibliography* (1933). *New York Times Book Review* 23 July 1933, 2.
- Brown, Leonard. "Our Contemporary Poetry." *Sewanee Review* 41 (Jan.–Mar. 1933): 43–63. [Dark melodrama; lacks intellectual effort.]
- Canby, H. S. "North of Hollywood." *Saturday Review of Literature* 10 (7 Oct. 1933): 162. [Reprinted in *Seven Years' Harvest*. New York: Farrar, Strauss, 1936, 146–50. In spite of morbidity, poem's water touched by some angel of judgment.]
- Cerwin, Herbert. "How Authors Get That Way." *Carmel Pine Cone* 1 Sept. 1933, 1. [RJ gets his best lines when washing dishes or building with stone.]
- Eiseley, Loren. "Music of the Mountain." *Voices* 67 (Dec.–Jan. 1932–33): 42–47. [RJ and environment; a Whitman gone to land's end and grown sadder, more sophisticated; skepticism about humanity like Thoreau's.]
- Hicks, Granville. "Trumpet Call." *The Great Tradition: An Interpretation of American Literature Since the Civil War*. New York: Macmillan, 1933. 263–65. [Marxist discussion of pessimism among modern writers; RJ sees suffering as making humans significant; the capacity to endure, yet is too set on apocalypse.]

- Hutchison, Percy. "Sound and Fury in Mr. Jeffers." *New York Times Book Review* 15 Oct. 1933, 5. [GYH: Questions RJ's love of cruelty, symbolized by the hawk, almost a perversion; appalling amounts of blood; nightmarish, succeeding dances of death; but RJ most striking personality in verse today.]
- Jeffers, Robinson. Answers to questionnaire from publisher. Alberts, 1933. 232–33. [Birthplace, residence, profession, degrees, ancestry; half unanswered.]
- . Appendix. Jeremy Ingolls. "Metaphysical Aspects of American Poetry." Tufts University MA thesis, 1933. [Poets and forms most satisfying: Shelley, Wordsworth, Yeats, Milton, Tennyson, Greek tragedy, Greek lyric; read and imitated: those mentioned and Rossetti and Swinburne; philosophy and science: Lucretius and Wordsworth; certainly also Shakespeare and King James Bible; when young: interest in Poe and Emerson, not Whitman. *SL* #212.]
- . Comment on "Cawdor." Alberts. 50–51. [*SM*. 125. "Tamar" looks west; "The Women at Point Sur" looks up; "Cawdor" looks east, reclaiming dignity for human affairs; Indian relics remind of passing cultures.]
- . Comment on "Dear Judas." Alberts, 1933. 57. ["Dear Judas" presents only divine figure still living in race's mind—as hero of a tragedy.]
- . Comment on *Descent to the Dead*. Alberts, 1933. 69. [Letter to Liveright. Visiting places and not people in Ireland.]
- . Comment on "Give Your Heart to the Hawks." Alberts, 1933. 78. [Better than "Thurso's Landing" in dramatic value; hawk symbolic; sequence of thought: "Descent to the Dead" to "Resurrection" to "Helen in Exile" ("At the Fall of an Age"), progressively concerned with death-resurrection theme.]
- . Comment on "The Loving Shepherdess" and "Dear Judas." Alberts, 1933. 56–57. *SL*. 144n. *SM*. 132. ["The Loving Shepherdess" a saint, natural martyr; "Dear Judas" a passion play, with characters embodying aspects of love: nearly pure, pitying, and possessive.]
- . Comments on "Thurso's Landing." Alberts, 1933. 72. [14 June 1932 letter to Alberts. Also Rorty, *SL*. 144n. "Thurso's Landing" on promontory 30 miles south of Monterey; saw cable and skip in 1914; "Thurso's Landing" displays courage—volitional, imaginative, and instinctive (in Reave Thurso, Helen, and Mother); characters more conscious moral implications of acts.]
- . Comment on "The Tower Beyond Tragedy." Alberts, 1933. 24, 27. *SL* #160. [Has Latin and Greek background but classic spirit from English poetry; Jewish actress's recital of barbaric Scot ballads inspired the play.]
- . Fragments of Introduction to "Brides of the South Wind," "Fragment One." Alberts, 1933. 109–10. [South wind brings rain after drought, moral for fiction, resurrection; glossary on hackamore, vaquero, corral; rejects idea civilization grows young by westward movement; poetry as primitive, a "moral" story brings reader "adjusted balance." For publication of the RJ volume, see Everson's edition from Cayucos Books, 1974.]
- . Introduction to "Brides of the South Wind," "Fragment Two." Alberts, 1933. 110–14. [Poet does not create beauty but heralds it; wine and honey are "permanent" as is the human organism, therefore subjects of a poem; poetry more primitive than prose, free verse, poetry's rhythms tidal; defends use of unpleasant stories, sexual themes; Freudian day-dreams. Dated by poet June 1922.]
- . Note. *Fifty Poets: An American Auto-Anthology*. Ed. W. R. Benét. New York: Dodd, Mead, 1933. 88. [Circumstances behind composing "To the Stone-Cutters."]
- . "Remembered Verses." Alberts, 1933. xv–xvi. [Dismisses juvenilia; was adolescent at 25; recalls Swinburne, Shelley, Milton, Marlowe encountered at 15.]

- Nelson, J. H. *Contemporary Trends Since 1914*. New York: Macmillan, 1933. 490. [RJ's pessimism from the despair of religion and philosophy in modern world.]
- Rorty, James. Review of *GYH*. *Nation* 137 (Dec. 1933): 712. [Craftsmanship; ablest performance, but tragedy premised on drunkenness and chance; reader ends racked but unsatisfied.]
- Thurston, Lenore. "The Tragic Spirit of Eugene O'Neill, Robinson Jeffers, and Theodore Dreiser." University of Utah thesis, 1933.
- Walton, Eda Lou. "A Poet at Odds with His Own Civilization." *New York Herald Tribune Books* 8 Oct. 1933, 6. [RJ distrusts civilization, is a pantheist who hates machines and cities; rejects Marxism and Fascism because they demean, is a "voice in the wilderness," crying out without purpose.]

1934

- Clark, Walter Von Tilburg. "A Study of Robinson Jeffers." University of Vermont thesis, 1934. [Compares with Wordsworth; disillusion with humans; cosmology of modern science, evolutionary, cyclical, dooming humanity; Greek values.]
- Fletcher, John Gould. "The Dilemma of Robinson Jeffers." *Poetry* 43 (Mar. 1934): 338–42. [Only some of the qualities that make Shakespeare, Milton, Aeschylus, or Goethe; deaf to the parrot-cries of the communists demanding social purpose, but own inhuman creed less interesting; characters with strong streaks of neurotic obsession; pompous and inflated absurdity; on self-destruct path.]
- Gregory, Horace. "Suicide in the Jungle." *New Masses* 25 (13 Feb. 1934): 18–19. [Marxist compares O'Neill and RJ; associates with corrupt society, but RJ is superlative; made the reader see the underside of the American Dream.]
- Hatcher, Harlan. "The Torches of Violence." *English Journal* 23 (Feb. 1934): 91–99. [RJ and Faulkner leaders in "school of violence," dwell on error and destruction in morbid fascination; should exalt courage in face of evil.]
- Hutchison, Percy. "The Poetry of Robinson Jeffers: A Sound and Careful Study of the California Poet's Work and of the Life and Personality Behind It." *New York Times* 2 Sept. 1934, sec.5: 2. [Review of Powell book as painstaking in uninspired style; questions all biographies of living authors.]
- Jeffers, Robinson. Foreword. *Robinson Jeffers: The Man and His Work*. By Lawrence Clark Powell. Los Angeles: Primavera P, 1934. xv–xvii. [No judgment on this book; RJ's themes are "normal" in dramatic poetry; pain produces stronger emotions; war and religion outmoded topics.]
- . Questionnaire for Geoffrey Grigson. *New Verse* (Dec. 1934): 18. [Intends poetry to be useful to self and others; influenced by Freud; no stands on political or economic creeds; sees self as no different from ordinary.]
- Kreymborg, Alfred. *A History of American Poetry*. New York: Tudor Publishing, 1934. 624–30. [RJ's hate for humanity contrasted with Whitman's love.]
- Linn, Robert. "Robinson Jeffers and William Faulkner." *American Spectator Year Book*. New York: Frederick A. Stokes, 1934. 304–07. [RJ and Faulkner's connection with "harlotry" and Yellow Journalism; appeal to intelligentsia's prurient and macabre interests; Linn makes up an outrageous plot for an American musical-comedy to parody RJ and Faulkner.]
- Luccock, Halford E. *Contemporary American Literature and Religion*. Chicago: Willett, Clark, 1934. 28. [Freud and others have taken away moral choice as the source of evil but left guilt; among those so influenced is RJ.]

- Matthiessen, F. O. "Yeats and Four American Poets." *Yale Review* 23 (Mar. 1934): 611–17. ["Give Your Heart to the Hawks" far less moving; fundamental confusion of thought vitiates tragedies.]
- Powell, Lawrence Clark. *Robinson Jeffers: The Man and His Work*. Los Angeles: Primavera P, 1934. [Updating of *An Introduction* (1932); updated, same title, 1940. Still basic introduction to RJ alongside Carpenter's *Robinson Jeffers* (1962).]
- . "Robinson Jeffers on Life and Letters." *Westways* 26.3 (Mar. 1934): 20–21. [From several interviews: tour of house, library; RJ doesn't fish, trap, or hunt; looks through brother astronomer's telescope; doesn't swim; RJ too deep for his own time.]
- Schappes, Morris U. "Robinson Jeffers and Hart Crane: A Study in Social Irony." *Dynamo* (Mar.–Apr. 1934).
- Spier, Leonard. "Notes on Robinson Jeffers: A Critical View of a Noted American Poet." *International Literature* (Moscow) 6 (1934): 112–17. [*RJN* 55 (1979): 36–42. RJ an individualist yawping his selfhood, belonging to the spoiled children of the privileged classes.]
- Zabel, Morton. "A Prophet in His Wilderness." *New Republic* 77 (3 Jan. 1934): 229–30. [Futility and violence; compared with Lawrence and O'Neill; characters will-less; anti-human; themes of revulsion.]

1935

- Benét, William Rose. "Phoenix Nest." *Saturday Review of Literature* 13 (2 Nov. 1935): 20. [In *Solstice*, RJ becomes redundant, but his stoicism is impressive.]
- Busch, Niven. "Duel on a Headland." *Saturday Review of Literature* 11 (9 Mar. 1935): 533. [RJ's pessimism seems a possible alternative philosophy for the times.]
- Deutsch, Babette. "The Burden of Mystery." *This Modern Poetry*. New York: Norton, 1935. 193–99. [Compares RJ with Lawrence and Yeats—themes of incest, love, peace; pitfall of rhetoric, sententious utterance.]
- . "In Love with the Universe." *New York Herald Tribune Books* 27 Oct. 1935, 8. [Same power, greater technical variety; eyes fixed on stars.]
- Field, Sara Bard. "Beauty Dedicated to Reaction." *Pacific Weekly* 3 (Nov. 1935): 226–27. [Friend Sara's condemnation of RJ's *Sol* as irrelevant; Una wrote a rebuttal (ms now at the Huntington Library).]
- Holmes, John. Review of *Sol*. *Boston Transcript* 19 Oct. 1935, 4. [Rage, violence, unreasoning and inhuman hatred pitched a few notes higher.]
- Humphries, Rolfe. "Robinson Jeffers." *Modern Monthly* 8 (Jan.–Feb. 1935): 680–89. [Marxist damns RJ's decadent pessimism, beliefs representative of bourgeois upper-class as it exits; his fatalism serves the governing class.]
- Jeffers, Robinson. Comment on the value of poetry. *Poetry Ball Program, Academy of American Poets*. [SL. #241. SM. 192. Poetry affects life directly, sharpens perceptions and emotions, reconciles to environment, inspires change, enriches life, stands between prose and music, is a test of reality.]
- . "Comment to George Sterling." *The Letters of Western Authors—Number One*. [San Francisco]: Book Club of California, Jan. 1935. [Grabhorn pamphlet. Sterling's qualities: generosity, nobility joined with liberality, thoughtfulness in friendship; his work individual and beautiful.]
- . "E. A. Robinson." *College Verse* 4.7 (May 1935): 155. [Qualities of Robinson's life—dignity, reticence, concentration, single-mindedness; work valued as delicate, firm, profound, exactly sincere.]

- . Endorsement of Robin Lampson's *Laughter Out of the Ground*. New York: Scribner's, 1935. Dust jacket. [Verse-novel a large achievement, exciting and inclusive picture of gold migration (California Gold Rush).]
- . Introduction. *Roan Stallion and Other Poems*. New York: Modern Library. vii–x. [Unwilling to revise poems; crisis at age 27; renounced trends and competition; decided not to become "modern"; four years later was writing without heed.]
- . Introductory Comment. *Robinson Jeffers: 1905-1935 Occidental College Exhibit. An Exhibit Commemorating the Thirtieth Anniversary of His Graduation from Occidental College*. Los Angeles: Ward Richie, 1935. [Looks back for context of years.]
- . Letter to Jake Zeitlin. Facsimile. 22 Mar. 1935. [SL. #240. His pessimism is less than the whole truth of nature; pleasure and pain balance out; RJ's verses look to the ends of life and how to meet them.]
- . Note for "At the Birth of an Age." *Solstice and Other Poems*. New York: Random House, 1935. 1–2. [SP. 505–06. Volsung Saga was source; theme: self-contradiction and frustration of Christian culture age; Asian religion imposed on Western aggressive blood; age is ending, poles losing force, ethic succeeds faith; Christian love/agape manifested in philanthropy, liberalism, socialism.]
- . Response to article, "The Beginnings of Jeffers" [see below] by John Moore. *Aperitif* 1.11 (Nov. 1935): 2. [SL. #247. *RJN* 80: 10ff. Denies he ever contemplated marriage with Lenora M; that Helen of *Flagons and Apples* was she; that he is a pessimist.]
- Jeffers, Una. Letter to Sara Bard Field and Erskine Scott Wood. 13 Nov. 1935. [SL. #248. Responds to Sara's critical review of *Sol* in *Pacific Weekly* noted above: RJ not a reactionary, doesn't think war and famine are tolerable; USSR is ending in empire and fascism; RJ doesn't believe in utopias; Sara's response to Una is at the Huntington Library in the Blanche Matthias papers.]
- Moore, John. "The Beginnings of Jeffers." *Aperitif* 1.10 (Oct. 1935): 6–13. [Claims RJ's pessimism comes from being turned down by the family of a former lover; RJ's denial noted above.]
- Poore, C. G. "Three New Books of Poetry." *New York Times Book Review* 30 Oct. 1935, 21. [Compares with Whitman; slights short poems; admires "At the Birth of an Age."]
- Powell, Lawrence Clark. *Robinson Jeffers 1905-1935* [catalog]. *An Exhibit Commemorating the Thirtieth Anniversary of His Graduation from Occidental College*. Los Angeles: Ward Ritchie, 1935. [See also updated 1955 exhibit catalog.]
- Rice, Philip. "Jeffers and the Tragic Sense." *Nation* 41 (3 Oct. 1935): 480–82. [RJ's ideas resemble "good fascism"; lust for pain like *flagellantes*.]
- Strauss, Kate D. "Robinson Jeffers: Poet of the Decline of the West." Mills College thesis, 1935. [Petrie, Spengler; main sources nature and science.]

1936

- Atkins, Elizabeth. *Edna St. Vincent Millay and Her Times*. Chicago: U of Chicago P, 1936. 245–46. [RJ, along with Eliot, Macleish, and Millay, will be considered a philosophical poet of his time.]
- Beach, J. W. *The Concept of Nature in Nineteenth Century English Poetry*. New York: Macmillan, 1936. 542–46. [RJ's nature has romantic splendor but also a ruthless nihilism.]
- Bennett, Melba Berry. *Robinson Jeffers and the Sea*. San Francisco: Gelber, Lilienthal, 1936. [Biography; she psychologizes; all RJ's sea passages surveyed.]
- Boynton, Percy. *Literature and American Life*. Boston: Ginn & Co., 1936. 860–63. [Abysmal depths of defiance and despair; denies all human nobility, sympathy.]

- Canby, Henry Seidel. "The Pulitzer Prize Winners." *Saturday Review of Literature* (9 May 1936): 6. [Condemns the committee for again passing over RJ; notes the committee no longer claims the prizes go to the best books.]
- . *Seven Years' Harvest*. New York: Farrar, Strauss, 1936. 146–50.
- DeCasseres, Benjamin. "Robinson Jeffers: Tragic Terror." *The Elect and the Damned*. New York: Blackstone Publishers, 1936. 17–27. [Overwhelming praise.]
- Gilbert, Rudolph. *Shine, Perishing Republic: Robinson Jeffers and the Tragic Sense in Modern Poetry*. Boston: Bruce Humphries, 1936. [Extravagant claims and praise; defends against Communists and Philistines.]
- Jeffers, Robinson. Endorsement on dust jacket. *The Hermaphrodite and Other Poems*. By Samuel Loveman. Caldwell, ID: Caxton Printers, 1936. [Finds poem memorable for diaphanous pure beauty and love of beauty.]
- . "You ask what is meant by breaking out of humanity" (facsimile). *Shine, Perishing Republic: Robinson Jeffers and the Tragic Sense in Modern Poetry*. Boston: Bruce Humphries, 1936. Frontispiece. [SL. #169. Means: 1) looking from outside in order to get objective knowledge, 2) having visionary enlightenment, cosmic consciousness, 3) growing out of childish self-regard, 4) rising from a human nature that has become an anachronism.]
- Jeffers, Una. Foreword. *Robinson Jeffers and the Sea*. San Francisco: Gelber, Lilienthal, 1936. vii–viii. [Family's experience of RJ writing; sea view from Tor House, day-long pilgrimages down the coast, Una's preference for the sea.]
- . "My Husband." *Sigma Chi Magazine* 55.1 (Feb. 1936): 25. [RJ now a volcano, now a Dante.]
- Lechlitner, Roth. Review of *Sol*. *New Republic* 85 (8 Jan. 1936): 262. [Confusing symbolism, Wagnerian thunder.]
- Moore, Merrill. "An Appreciation of Robinson Jeffers." *Sigma Chi Magazine* 55.1. (Feb. 1936): 24–28. [Uncritical adulation preceded by (unsigned) "A Great Poet" (pp. 20–23) and a 300-word essay by Una Jeffers, "My Husband," p. 25.]
- Powell, Lawrence Clark. "The Man at Tor House." *Vo Mag* (Pasadena Junior College) 4.2 (Mar. 1936): 40–42. [Exalted range and dignity of thought.]
- Steffens, Lincoln. *Lincoln Steffens Speaking*. New York: Harcourt, Brace, 1936. 77–83. [Neighbor and friend: RJ uses more cement on projects than most builders, as also on his poetry, his life, and his family.]
- Taylor, Walter Fuller. *A History of American Letters*. Boston: American Book, 1936. 441–44. [The Naturalism of violence in poetry began with RJ; his power owes to the natural grandeur of the California coast, open sky, sheer cliffs, huge redwoods.]

1937

- Benét, William Rose. "Jeffers' Latest Work." *Designed for Reading*. Ed. H. S. Canby. New York: Macmillan, 1937. 234–38.
- Bogan, Louise. "Landscape with Jeffers." *Nation* 155 (23 Oct. 1937): 442. [RJ has Presbyterian dis gusts; great talent, but needs humanizing.]
- Bush, Douglas. "American Poets." *Mythology and the Romantic Tradition in English Poetry*. Cambridge: Harvard UP, 1937. 518–25. [RJ not Greek or Classical; they would consider him "an unbalanced barbarian."]
- "California Hybrid." *Time* 30 (18 Oct. 1937): 86–87. [Splendid glimpses of non-human things; RJ both hell-bent prophet and mealy-eyed.]
- Deutsch, Babette. "Jeffers' Tragic Drum-Roll." *New York Herald Tribune Books* 31 Oct. 1937, 8. [Strength through use of science and psychology.]



- Devoto, Bernard. "Rats, Lice, and Poetry." *Saturday Review of Literature* 17 (23 Oct. 1937): 8. [On modern literature's tendency toward despair: struggle and flight seem the same to RJ.]
- Flanner, Hildegarde. "Two Poets: Jeffers and Millay." *New Republic* 89 (27 Jan. 1937): 379–82. [Reprinted in Malcolm Cowley. *After the Great Tradition*. Carbondale: U of Southern Illinois P, 1964. 124–33. Compares RJ and Millay; prefers "The Tower Beyond Tragedy"; characters' insanity prevents tragedy.]
- "Four Forgotten Books Win \$2,500 Prizes." *New York Times* 30 Jan. 1937, 15. [RJ top winner of votes; includes a tribute from Edna St. Vincent Millay.]
- Jack, Peter M. "Mr. Jeffers' New Version of an Old Scot Ballad." *New York Tribune Book Review* (17 Oct. 1937): 4. [Faulty psychology, extreme romanticism, pseudo-science; a witness with Eliot's "The Waste Land."]
- Jeffers, Robinson. "First Book." *Breaking into Print*. Ed. Elmer Adler. New York: Simon & Schuster, 1937. [1–8.] [See *Colophon* (May 1932).]
- Loggins, Vernon. "Questioning Despair." *I Hear America Singing*. New York: Thomas Crowell, 1937. 60–70, 74, 229, 309, 319, 351, 354. [RJ's symbols of rock and hawk; influences of sociology and science; his life and works.]
- Rukeyser, Muriel. "Poet's Page." *New Republic* 93 (29 Dec. 1937): 234. [RJ's mess of ideas shocking; meaningless attacks on mankind's beliefs.]
- Swallow, Alan. "The Poetry of Robinson Jeffers." *Intermountain Review* 2 (Fall 1937): 8–9. [Marxist faults RJ for working within bourgeois culture; should have joined the progressive culture.]
- Untermeyer, Louis. Review of *SC*. *Saturday Review of Literature* 16 (9 Oct. 1937): 11. [Lines passionate and perverse, consolation in transient beauty, will endure new pain and slaveries.]
- Warren, Robert Penn. "Jeffers on the Age." *Poetry* 49 (Feb. 1937): 279–82. [Review of *Sol*: no new development, extension, or discovery; much self-imitation; "At the Birth of an Age" most interesting; lyrics fragmentary.]
- Winters, Yvor. "The Experimental School in American Poetry." *Primitivism and Decadence*. New York: Arrow Editions, 1937. 15–63. [Reprinted in *In Defense of Reason*. Denver: Alan Swallow, 1947. 30–74. RJ's writing is pretentious trash.]

1938

- Ashelman, Margaret. "Ethical Fiber of Robinson Jeffers's Poetry." Swarthmore College thesis, 1938. [Decay of humanity; values rocks and hawks, the non-human, endurance; death not feared but bridge to inhuman world.]
- Benét, William Rose, and Norman Holmes Pearson, eds. "Robinson Jeffers." *Oxford Anthology of American Literature*. Vol. 2. New York: Oxford UP, 1938. 1354–83. [Includes "The Tower Beyond Tragedy" and eight poems or excerpts; sees RJ as naysayer but powerful like a force of nature, rhythms like waves, descriptive strength, apt metaphor and epithet.]
- Clapp, Frederick Mortimer. "Figures in a Coast Range Dance of Death (For R. J.)." *Said Before Sunset*. New York: Harper and Brothers, 1938: 54. [Poem tribute.]
- Jeffers, Robinson. Answer to questionnaire for Eugene Jolas. *Transition* 27 (Apr.–May 1938): 237. [Rarely recalls his dreams; has no daydreams or hallucinations; has never observed his collective unconscious; no need for a new language.]
- . Answer to questionnaire in *Volontes* (Jan. 1938). [*SM* notes. Conscience is inculcated—for functioning of social organisms; short-term welfare of nation may be possible, can't change direction of civilization.]

- . Comment on human values (letter). “Science and the Poetry of Robinson Jeffers.” By Hyatt Waggoner. *American Literature* 10 (Nov. 1938): 284. [SL. #271. It is illusion that traditional values are divinely ordained; but to prefer courage to cowardice, mercy to cruelty, is no illusion.]
- . Comment on the relation of science to the artist and thinker (letter). “Science and the Poetry of Robinson Jeffers.” By Hyatt Waggoner. *American Literature* 10 (Nov. 1938): 284. [SL. #270. Science important but not essential to the artist; limits range and significance; RJ’s father brought him up on *The Origin of Species*, astronomy, and geology; medical school widened world.]
- . Foreword. *Selected Poetry of Robinson Jeffers*. New York: Random House, 1938. xiii–xviii. [Modern poetry and art self-limiting; need to reclaim areas of life; need to commit to reader 2,000 years hence; RJ won’t tell lies in verse; influence of wife and coast mountains; origins of “Tamar,” “Roan Stallion,” “The Tower Beyond Tragedy,” “Apology,” “The Loving Shepherdess,” “Thurso’s Landing,” “Give Your Heart to the Hawks,” “At the Birth of an Age.”]
- . Letter to Sister Mary James Power. *Poets at Prayer*. New York: Sheed & Ward, 1938. 60–61. [SL. #235. Universe one being; parts express same energy communicating with and influencing each other, compels love; humans can contribute but God sufficient without it; tragedy is to show beauty in pain.]
- . Remarks on the individual and society. *My America*. By Louis Adamic. New York: Harper & Bros., 1938. 474–75. [SL. #242. Individual can find aims; society can only pursue Caesarism; no saving society, no solution in working class or primitivism.]
- . Review on Lawrence Tibbett Award. *College Verse* (May 1938). [Chosen for its simplicity, ability to raise contemporary life into poetry.]
- . “You Ask Me . . .” (response concerning the Spanish Civil War). *Writers Take Sides*. New York: League of American Writers, 1938. 3–4. [SL. #276. Would give right hand to prevent the agony, not flick of finger to help either side win; zero tolerance for Italy and Russia intervening; would fight fascism at home, but not in Italy, Germany, Russia, or Spain.]
- Jeffers, Una. Letter to Margaret Ashelman for her Swarthmore College thesis (noted above). [SL. #274. Notes RJ’s father, though a recluse, had liberal views, “progressively relaxed in creed and dogma,” and rotated church attendance; RJ’s family experience was prayers, catechism, and Bible reading which affected his language; RJ had no rebellion against religion.]
- Jordan-Smith, Paul. Review of *SP*. *Los Angeles Times* 11 Dec. 1938, sec. 3: 10. [Most thoroughly American poet; most philosophic since Emerson.]
- Millay, Edna St. Vincent. Letter (25 May 1938) to Arthur Davidson Ficke. *Letters of Edna St. Vincent Millay*. New York: Harper and Brothers, 1952. 295. [No Pulitzer because of political and moral narrowness of judges; none approve of RJ, clearly by reason of his subject matter.]
- Miller, Benjamin T. “A Study in Aesthetic Naturalism.” Pacific School of Religion thesis, 1938. [Study of Meland, Santayana, and Jeffers for metaphysics, mystic naturalism, religious consciousness; RJ metaphysical, deterministic; God non-conscious, non-moral; mysticism sensuous, in nature, indifferent.]
- “Nine and Two.” *Time* 32 (26 Dec. 1938): 41. [Time turns hostile: RJ’s poems “semi-scientific platitudes, unpoetic intensities.”]
- Power, Sister Mary James. “Robinson Jeffers Takes God to Task.” *Poets at Prayer*. New York: Sheed & Ward, 1938. 63–68. [Narrow, sectarian point of view makes for multiple misjudgments of RJ; yet his is the best testament received.]

- Quinn, Arthur Hobson, and others, eds. *The Literature of America*. Vol. 2. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1938. N64. [Anthology of poems, comments on RJ's "cynical disbelief in civilization."]
- Rodman, Selden, ed. *A New Anthology of Modern Poetry*. New York: Random House, 1938. 44, 425. [Whitman's love for country, people, and life has, in RJ, turned to pity, disgust, and hate.]
- Van Wyck, William. *Robinson Jeffers*. Los Angeles: Ward Ritchie P, 1938. [Reviews SC; explores RJ's philosophy.]
- Waggoner, Hyatt Howe. "Science and the Poetry of Robinson Jeffers." *American Literature* 10 (Nov. 1938): 275–88. [Lists sciences RJ uses, but science has left him behind.]
- Walton, Eda Lou. "Beauty of Storm Disproportionately." *Poetry* 51 (Jan. 1938): 209–13. [RJ shows an antisocial and nihilistic love of violence and power; characters mythic; he repeats himself.]
- Wann, Louis. "Robinson Jeffers—Counterpart of Walt Whitman." *Personalist* 19 (Summer 1938): 297–308. [Philosophies antithetical; RJ's achievement consummate.]

1939

- Brown, E. K. "The Coast Opposite Humanity." *Canadian Forum* 18 (Jan. 1939): 309–10. [Huge and heroic conceptions.]
- Conrad, Sherman. Review of *SP*. *Nation* 148 (3 June 1939): 651. [Crippling limitations; obsessed by cosmic entropy; dismisses human value.]
- "Critics Vote on Best Books of 1938." *Saturday Review of Literature* 19 (22 Apr. 1939): 6–7. [Poll of reviewers and editors gave RJ's *SP* winning eight votes for Pulitzer, but John Gould Fletcher got the award.]
- Fitts, Dudley. "Tragedy or Violence?" *Saturday Review of Literature* 19 (22 Apr. 1939): 19. [Finds RJ a latter-day Kyd; nihilistic disgust toward people; no approbation; an adept story-teller but out of human dimension.]
- Flewelling, R. T. "Tragic Drama—Modern Style." *Personalist* 20 (July 1939): 229–40. [Compares Aeschylus's *Oresteia* with "The Tower Beyond Tragedy": belief in fate, the gods, and in mankind's divinity opposed by belief in science and fatalism.]
- Gierasch, Walter. "Robinson Jeffers." *English Journal* 28 (Apr. 1939): 284–95. [Examines pessimism, incest, nature, a world few can believe in but must face.]
- Greenan, Edith. *Of Una Jeffers*. Los Angeles: Ward Ritchie P, 1939. [Uncritical memoir with many Jeffers anecdotes, but overawed.]
- Haydon, A. Eustace. "Robinson Jeffers: Poet-Philosopher." *University Review* 5 (Summer 1939): 235–38. [Poet of dis-illusion and cosmic immensities.]
- Jeffers, Robinson. Foreword. *Of Una Jeffers*. By Edith Greenan. Los Angeles: Ward Ritchie P. ix. [Uniqueness of two women's relationship (having common husband/former husband); Una's quickness to savor life; RJ's good fortune to have her.]
- Lind, L. Robert. "The Crisis in Literature Today." *Sewanee Review* 47 (Jan.–Mar. 1939): 35–51. [Compares RJ with Swift: grotesque symbols, intolerable spleen, cul-de-sac in contemporary history; Hebraic thunder, poet as preacher; human nobility lies in will to endure malignities of Nature and men.]
- Miller, Benjamin. "The Poetry of Permanence." *Christian Century* 61 (1 Mar. 1939): 288. [Christian values in aversion to humanism; distinctly religious dimension found in breaking out of humanity.]
- . "Toward a Christian Philosophy of the Theatre." *Personalist* 20 (Oct. 1939): 361–76. [Uses RJ quotes and "The Answer" to clarify connection between aesthetic and religious experience.]

- “The Pulitzer Prizes.” *Saturday Review of Literature* 20 (6 May 1939): 8. [Repeated protest that RJ is passed over; prize goes to minor poets.]
- Schwartz, Delmore. “Sources of Violence.” *Poetry* 55 (Oct. 1939): 34–38. [*GYH*: poetry without interest or value; it is hysterical, barren, false, gauche.]
- Taylor, Frajam. “The Hawk and the Stone.” *Poetry* 55 (Oct. 1939): 39–46. [Compares with Nietzsche; RJ’s affirmation is nature; the world is in denial; explicates *T* and *GYH*.]
- Van Doren, Carl and Mark. “Robinson Jeffers.” *American and British Literature Since 1890*. New York: Century, 1939. 55–57. [“Tamar” introduced RJ’s themes: murder, incest, slaughter, fire, desperate tenderness; man perverts himself with too much inward thinking; need to love outward.]
- Wrubel, David. “Primitivism and Robinson Jeffers: A Survey and a Study.” Columbia University thesis, 1939. [Concern for man’s place in cosmos; violence as value; eternal recurrence.]

1940

- Carpenter, Frederic Ives. “Death Comes for Robinson Jeffers.” *University Review* 7 (Dec. 1940): 97–105. [Reprinted in *American Literature and the Dream*. New York: Philosophical Library, 1955. 144–54. Confusing title: RJ died in 1962; RJ sees death as not dreaded but a music; life is often evil—thus inverts men’s wisdom.]
- . “The Values of Robinson Jeffers.” *American Literature* 11 (Jan. 1940): 353–66. [Defends RJ against fascism; RJ sees social action as foredoomed; RJ’s pessimism is Greek; his new values are in discovery of truth and human powers; ignorance is not a value.]
- DeVoto, Bernard. “Lycanthropy.” *Minority Report*. Boston: Little, Brown, 1940. 257–64. [Hemingway’s and RJ’s characters are animals; RJ prefers plants, stone.]
- Gilbert, Rudolph. “Robinson Jeffers’s Huge Background.” *Carmel Pine Cone* 12 Apr. 1940, 5. [Critique of Schwartz and Taylor in 1939 *Poetry*: example of extreme defensiveness on the part of an admirer.]
- Hopkins, Virgil Elizabeth. “A Comparison of the Poetry of Whitman and Jeffers.” University of Washington thesis, 1940.
- Jeffers, Robinson. Foreword. *Fire and Other Poems*. By D. H. Lawrence. [San Francisco]: Book Club of California, 1940. iii–viii. [Lawrence’s genius, use of myth and magic; RJ chooses four “best” poems; Lawrence’s faults in concentration, surface emotion, public speech, Protestantism (missionary zeal, faith in intuition, inner guidance, blood salvation); seeking clue to the labyrinth.]
- . “Thoughts Incidental to a Poem.” *Personalist* 21 (July 1940): 239–42. [Expands on note to “Solstice” (1935): Christianity foreign to aggressive West, never assimilated; core discarded but shows in clashes of love and vengeance, humility and honor, nonresistance and power; classic heroes war with fate, Christian heroes war with themselves.]
- Jeffers, Una. “How Carmel Won the Hearts of the Jeffers Family.” *Carmel Pine Cone* 19 Apr. 1940, 9. [The Jefferses’ early years and experiences in Carmel.]
- Jones, Howard Mumford. “Reply to Carpenter.” *American Literature* 12 (Mar. 1940): 108. [Noted critic protests being misinterpreted as dismissing RJ.]
- Luccock, Halford E. *American Mirror*. New York: Macmillan, 1940. 35, 48, 109, 266–69. [RJ fascist and anti-Christian, acclaims superman immune to ethics.]
- Miller, Benjamin. “The Demands of the Religious Consciousness.” *Review of Religion* 4 (May 1940): 401–15. [Analysis of the poem “Hope Is Not for the Wise.”]

- Millett, Fred B. *Contemporary American Literature*. New York: Harcourt, Brace, 1940. 149–50, 406–07. [RJ technically impressive but overly violent, barbaric.]
- Powell, Lawrence Clark. *Robinson Jeffers: The Man and His Work*. Pasadena: San Pasqual P, 1940. [Updates 1934 edition with RJ's new poems; excellent introduction.]
- Wells, Henry W. *New Poets From Old: A Study in Literary Genetics*. New York: Columbia University P, 1940. 214–30. [Literary influences on RJ: Shakespeare and Elizabethan.]
- Wilder, Amos N. "Nihilism of Mr. Robinson Jeffers." *Spiritual Aspects of the New Poetry*. New York: Harper and Brothers, 1940. 141–52. [Defends RJ's mysticism against Winters; RJ shares some Asian religious values; parallels nihilism of Nirvana.]

1941

- Brooks, Van Wyck. *Opinions of Oliver Alston*. New York: Dutton, 1941. 196. [RJ among writers to whom the human heart is vile, life is ugly, and nothing is to be done but raise lamentations.]
- Cargill, Oscar. *Intellectual America: Ideas on the March*. New York: Macmillan, 1941. 741–61. [RJ's affinity to Shelley; symptomatic of US moral confusion.]
- Chapin, Catherine Garrison. "A Letter About Jeffers." *Poetry Society of America*. (Mar. 1941): 5–6. [Recalls RJ's lecture and reading at the Library of Congress.]
- Frankenburg, Lloyd. Review of *BA*. *New York Herald Tribune Books* 30 Nov. 1941, 7. [RJ is a dramatic poet; doesn't develop character or incident but uncovers subconscious and primitive layers; climaxes are pits.]
- Hobart, John. "Story Behind the Tower Beyond Tragedy." *San Francisco Chronicle, This World* 13 July 1941, 18. [Pithy language; RJ's innate instinct for theater, passionate fierceness.]
- Jeffers, Robinson. Note. *Be Angry at the Sun*. New York: Random House, 1941. vii. [Faces dilemma in obsession with contemporary history; poetry neither private monologue nor public speech, worse for being timely, but must represent the whole mind even preoccupied, no postponing, seek calm at whirlwind's heart.]
- Kunitz, Stanley. "The Day Is a Poem." *Poetry* 59 (Dec. 1941): 48–54. ["Mara" repetitious; "Bowl of Blood" magnificent; sees possible fascism.]
- Matthiessen, F. O. *American Renaissance*. London: Oxford UP, 1941. 339n, 592–93. [Whitman influence but in negation, not optimism; not free verse but complex patterns.]
- Ransom, John Crowe. *The New Criticism*. Norfolk, CT: New Directions, 1941. 216, 236–37. [Sees Yvor Winters's problem with RJ as theological; verse obviously not trash.]
- Short, R. W. "The Tower Beyond Tragedy." *Southern Review* 7 (Summer 1941): 132–44. [RJ's philosophy bogus, artistic sense weak; inconsistent; characters flat: RJ's canon reflects the sensationalism of a passing generation.]
- Watts, Harold J. "Multivalence of Robinson Jeffers." *College English* (1941): 109–20. [Three levels: human, passively non-human, and actively non-human.]
- . "Robinson Jeffers and Eating the Serpent." *Sewanee Review* 49 (Jan.–Mar. 1941): 39–55. [Sees RJ as a mystic: calls his philosophy "masochistic pantheism."]

1942

- Deutsch, Babette. "Poets and New Poets." *Virginia Quarterly Review* 18 (Winter 1942): 132–34. [Detects fascist sympathies; an aging man in an unhappy world.]

- . “The Worst for Being Timely.” *New Republic* 106 (23 Mar. 1942): 402. [BA: same narrative themes, same aloofness from recurrent human follies and crimes; admires “The Bowl of Blood.”]
- Duboise, Novella E. “A Study of Some Parallel Ideas Found in the Literary Works of Edgar Allen Poe and Robinson Jeffers in Light of Scientific Progress.” University of Kentucky thesis, 1942. [Both fear man with science, see one God; Poe sees Newton, Jeffers sees matter and energy and hidden psychology; death is release.]
- Gates, G. G. “The Bread That Every Man Must Eat Alone.” *College English* 4 (Dec. 1942): 170–74. [Neither fascist, nihilist, nor romantic, RJ aims at resolving the inconsistency between the individual and his social milieu.]
- Ghiselin, Brewster. “Paeonic Measures in English Verse.” *Modern Language Notes* 57 (May 1942): 338–41. [“The Songs of the Dead Men to the Three Dancers” has every ninth foot a paeon; first three parts are mainly anapestic; RJ gives us accentual verse in new forms.]
- Greenberg, Clement. “Robinson Jeffers.” *Nation* 154 (7 Mar. 1942): 289. [“Mara” especially bad; RJ too narrow to be taken seriously.]
- Gregory, Horace, and Marya Zaturenska. “Robinson Jeffers and the Birth of Tragedy.” *History of American Poetry 1900–1940*. New York: Harcourt, Brace, 1942. 398–412. [Verse resembles Melville, Whitman; philosophy Nietzschean; “Roan Stallion” an example of classical rules of unity.]
- Holmes, John. “The New Books of Poetry.” *New York Times Book Review* 22 Feb. 1942, 18. [BA: RJ’s predictions are becoming reality; his violence is today’s fact.]
- Kunitz, Stanley, and Howard Haycraft. *Twentieth Century Authors*. New York: H. W. Wilson, 1942. 722–23. [Unique phenomenon in American and world literature, grand and grandiose, unremitting monotony of doom, fierce genius.]
- Miller, Benjamin. Review of BA. *Christian Century* 59 (3 June 1942): 729. [RJ justified as a prophet; most profound view coming from WW II; passionate disinterestedness.]
- Roberts, R. E. “Lonely Eminence.” *Saturday Review of Literature* 25 (25 Apr. 1942): 8. [“Bowl of Blood” passionate understanding; pity for humanity.]
- Untermeyer, Louis. *Modern American Poetry*. New York: Harcourt, Brace, 1942. 402–17. [Prints twenty RJ poems; split between poetry and philosophy which is negative, repetitious, dismal; poetry, even bitterest, is varied, vibrant, fecund, finding new patterns.]
- . “Time and These Times.” *Yale Review* 31 (Winter 1942): 8. [RJ’s misanthropy perhaps justified; “Mara” most vivid of stories.]

### 1943

- Arms, George W. “Jeffers’ Fire on the Hills.” *Explicator* 1 (May 1943): item 59. [Poem strategies to get reader to accept his violence-justifying conclusion.]
- Johnson, William S. “The Savior in the Poetry of Robinson Jeffers.” *American Literature* 15 (May 1943): 159–68. [Examines three types: mythic (Jesus); fictional (Barkley), historical (Wilson, Hitler); good life is found in withdrawal; examines “Meditation on Saviors” as example of RJ’s ambivalence seeking clarity.]
- Seubert, Eugene. “Robinson Jeffers: Poet of an Age of Violence.” *Studies of the Northwest State Teachers College* 7 (1 June 1943): 3–28. [Violence is plot and theme of all RJ narratives; influence of coast and Spengler; RJ reveals an imagination overwhelmed by the events of his day.]
- Stovall, Floyd. *American Idealism*. Norman: U of Oklahoma P, 1943. 205–209. [RJ’s Greek sources; psychology of subconscious; RJ rejects human ideals, any institution]

or culture; repudiates humanitarianism, democracy, religion; has hope purely in law of physical nature; his creed: pantheistic materialism; he values freedom.]

Wells, Henry. "Grander Canyons." *The American Way of Poetry*. New York: Columbia UP, 1943. 148–60. [Landscape's influence; dramatic, mystical, scientific; naturalism more profound than D. H. Lawrence's.]

1944

Benét, William Rose. "Poetry's Last Twenty Years." *Saturday Review of Literature* 27 (5 Aug. 1944): 100–04. [RJ our most disillusioned poet of bloody tragedy.]

Coffin, Robert P. "Poetry Today and Tomorrow." *Journal of Aesthetics and Art Criticism* 3 (1944): 59–67. [RJ an example that doubt never produces major poetry—RJ, "because he believes only in death, has written a dead poetry."]

DeVoto, Bernard. "They Turned Their Backs on America." *Saturday Review of Literature* 27 (8 Apr. 1944): 5–8. [The American spirit rejects RJ.]

Gilbert, Rudolph. "Robinson Jeffers: The Philosophical Tragedist." *Four Living Poets* [James Daly, Ruth Pitter, E. Merrill Root, and RJ]. Santa Barbara, CA: Unicorn P, 1944. 23–41. [RJ's mysticism; unity of thought; philosophic insight; lyric skill.]

Wells, Henry W. "A Philosophy of War: The Outlook of Robinson Jeffers." *College English* 6 (Nov. 1944): 81–88. [RJ supports WW II through stoicism; sees war as primary metaphor; few poems untouched by it; wars fill the universe; RJ is un-American in his Germanic celebration of violence.]

1945

Cestre, Charles. *La Littérature Américaine*. Paris: Librairie Armand Colin, 1945. 205. [RJ barbaric; characters stoic, violent, brutal; he has a strong voice.]

Cook, Reginald L. "A Meditative Sentinel." *Arizona Quarterly* 3 (Summer 1945): 43–45. [RJ not negativist or despairing; human tragedy is from racial inversion.]

Jeffers, Robinson. Comment referring to Prokosch's *The Assassins. Age of Thunder*. By Frederick Prokosch. New York: Harper, 1945. dust jacket. ["Lines here express more truth about contemporary history than many whole volumes of recent political comment."]

Steward, Randall. "American Literature between the Wars." *South Atlantic Quarterly* 44 (Oct. 1945): 371–83. [New science was impressed that the universe was doomed; RJ followed; Thomas Wolfe is at opposite pole.]

Tate, Allen. *Sixty American Poets 1894–1944*. Washington: Library of Congress, 1945. 55–59. [A bibliography; sees RJ's great power despite Winters.]

Wish, Harvey. *Contemporary America: The National Scene Since 1900*. New York: Harper, 1945. 331, 516. ["Tamar": spiritual decay, sex, introspection.]

1946

Bell, Lisle. Review of *M*. *New York Herald Tribune Weekly Book Review* 21 Apr. 1946, 19. [Authentically dramatic force.]

Bogan, Louise. "The Modern Syndrome." *New Yorker* 22 (11 May 1946): 89–91. [Reprinted in *Selected Criticism*. New York: Noonday P, 1955. 302–04. In *M* adaptation, RJ's nightmare world becomes our reality.]

Commins, Saxe. "Medea—The Perennial." *Key Reporter* 11 (Summer 1946): 4. [Vigor and eloquence, intensity and psychological penetration.]

- Cunningham, Cornelius C. "The Rhythm of Robinson Jeffers' Poetry as Revealed by Oral Reading." *Quarterly Journal of Speech* 32 (Oct. 1946): 351–57. [Reading RJ reveals rhythm of iambic-anapestic duple meter—not in tradition of Whitman or King James Bible but of Swinburne, Aeschylus, and Euripides.]
- Fitts, Dudley. "Hellenism of Robinson Jeffers." *Kenyon Review* 8 (Autumn 1946): 678–83. [Reprinted in Ransom. *Kenyon Critics*. New York: World, 1951. 307–12. RJ incapable of tragic force of Euripides, lacks insight and control.]
- Hackman, Martha. "Whitman, Jeffers, and Freedom." *Prairie Schooner* 20 (Fall 1946): 182–84. [RJ not fascist or misanthrope but countercurrent to a culture that identifies security and comfort with freedom.]
- Matthiessen, F. O. "Poetry." *Literary History of the United States*. One-volume reprint. Eds. Robert L. Spiller et al. New York: Macmillan, 1946. 1347–48. [On decadence of American society, influence of Spengler; RJ neutral recorder, scorned proletariat; despaired of any radical social reform.]
- Meyer, G. P. "Medea in California." *Saturday Review of Literature* 29 (13 July 1946): 20. [More primitive than Euripides; beautiful clarity and force.]
- Mizener, Arthur. "The Medea of the Rocks." *Nation* 163 (31 Aug. 1946): 246. [Protests the radical adaptation but admits its success.]
- O'Connor, William Van. "Nature and the Anti-Poetic in Modern Poetry." *Journal Of Aesthetics and Art Criticism* 5 (Sept. 1946): 35–44. [A New Critic thinks RJ an escapist, preoccupied with perversion; his tragedy has become pathetic; like Lawrence, he blames man's dissociation from nature.]
- Stauffer, Donald. "California Euripides." *New York Times Book Review* 21 Apr. 1946, 7. [Bathos; flat poetry; play might do well with an ambitious actress.]

1947

- "Acting Mayor J. J. Hynes of Boston Bans 'Dear Judas,' Play Based on Jeffers' Poem." *New York Times* 14 Aug. 1947, 25. [Censor judged it would offend many.]
- Atkison, Brooks. "At the Theatre." *New York Times* 21 Oct. 1947, 27. [Spare us the supernatural bogeyman of classical Greek drama; gets on briskly with terrifying story of a woman revenge-obsessed; verse modern; words vivid.]
- . "The New Play in Review." *New York Times* 6 Oct. 1947, 26. ["Dear Judas": the rationalization of a sacred theme and difficult to understand.]
- Bentley, Eric. *The Cult of the Superman*. London: Robert Hale, 1947. 117, 227. [RJ is heroic vitalist, akin to Fascists, following Nietzsche to new immortality.]
- Brown, John Mason. "Genuine Virtuosity." *Saturday Review of Literature* 30 (22 Nov. 1947): 24–27. [RJ's *M* streamlines the text to contemporary stage, rids speeches, gives iron quality.]
- Cail, Harold C. "Dear Judas Bows at Maine Theatre." *New York Times* 5 Aug. 1947, 26. ["Dear Judas" not offensive but controversial; Meyerberg eliminates only one passage as supposedly offensive to Christians.]
- "Dances in Dear Judas." *New York Times* 19 Oct. 1947, sec. 2: 6. [A Noh play peopled by ghosts revisiting scenes of their passions; theatrical substance given by movement and music.]
- Fitzell, Lincoln. "Western Writers." *Sewanee Review* 44 (Summer 1947): 530–35. [Flip-pant, condescending, sneering put-down of RJ from a great height.]
- Garland, Robert. "No Power and Glory in Ideological Play." *New York Journal American* 6 Oct. 1947, 11. [Blames Meyerberg for failures of "Dear Judas": inoffensive to Christian; ineffective to critic.]



- Gibbs, Wolcott. Review of "Dear Judas." *New Yorker* 23 (18 Oct. 1947): 55–57. [Meyerberg's Bach chorales, dancers, masks, and stylized gyrations mix literary with compelling images, but a play not for the stage.]
- Glicksberg, Charles. "The Poetry of Doom and Despair." *Humanist* 7 (Aug. 1947): 69–76. [Contrasts Auden with RJ, the most talented poet of modern scientific enlightenment and pessimism.]
- Jeffers, Robinson. Comment. *American Authors Today*. Eds. Whit Burnett and Charles Slatkin. Boston: Ginn, 1947. 301. [*RJN* 84 (Autumn 1992): 5–6. Remarks two incidents behind poems: a broken-winged hawk ("Hurt Hawks"), an old man at peace ("Promise of Peace").]
- . Comment. *Natural Music*. Folio 12. [San Francisco]: Book Club of California, 1947. [RJ at Carmel River in early spring 1920 or 1921; fear, famine, and civil war abroad; recognition that beauty is better than hope.]
- . Endorsement. *The Seeming Real*. By Frederick Clapp. New York: Harper, 1947. Inside front flap of dust jacket. [Compares Clapp's poetry to Yeats's; profound, allusive, ascetic, demanding; no peers in depth and range of thought.]
- . Foreword. *Fifty Photographs*. By Edward Weston. New York: Duell, Sloane, & Pearce, 1947. 7–10. [Admires Weston's simplicity and effectiveness, concentration and energy; photography combines cold machine and hot human energies; art with special qualities; precision, range, instant seeing.]
- . "Preface to 'Judas.'" *New York Times* 5 Oct. 1947, sec. 2: 3. [*SM*. 196–98. Banned in Boston on theological grounds; intent was not to disturb faith; Noh play to depict grand passions; RJ provides a reading of the inner, mental conflicts of gospel characters.]
- Levy, William Turner. "Notes on the Prophetic Element in the Poetry of Robinson Jeffers." Columbia University thesis, 1947. [Barclay's questions; peace in renouncing human values, avoiding corrupting cities, seeking nature.]
- Matthiessen, F. O. "American Poetry, 1920–1940." *Sewanee Review* 55 (Winter 1947): 24–55. [Irrelevant violence in long poems; descriptive mastery in lyrics.]
- Nims, J. F. "Greater Grandeur." *Poetry: A Critical Supplement* (Oct. 1947): 5–6. [Explication of poems appearing in *Poetry*, October 1947.]
- Wasserstrom, William. "A Discussion of the Criticism of Robinson Jeffers." Columbia University thesis, 1947. [Discusses cult critics (Van Doren and Powell); impressionist approach; "sublime school"; modern tastes seek other than RJ.]
- Winters, Yvor. *In Defense of Reason*. Denver: Alan Swallow, 1947. 31–35. [Reprints "The Experimental School in American Poetry." *Primitivism And Decadence*. New York: Arrow Editions, 1937. 15–50.]
- Zollotow, Sam. "'Dear Judas' Trial Opposed in Maine." *New York Times* 11 July 1947, 10. [Catholic attorney Francis Sullivan's strong opposition to play.]

1948

- "And Buckets of Blood." *Time* 52 (2 Aug. 1948): 79. [*DA*: faintly theatrical; gloom-wrapped; a necrophiliac nightmare.]
- Anderson, Stanley. "Robinson Jeffers Nods and World Marches By." *Cleveland Press* 3 Aug. 1948, 20. [Violent political isolationism; RJ breathing but asleep.]
- Breton, Maurice. *Anthologie de la Poesie Americaine Contemporaine*. Paris: Les Editions Denoel, 1948. 48–49, 234–35. [RJ neo-romantic like Anderson and Faulkner.]
- Bringham, R. I. "Bitter and Skillful Treatise in Verse." *St. Louis Dispatch* 1 Aug. 1948, sec. 6: 4. [RJ is isolated, unbalanced; he appeals to the right-wing nationalists and lunatic fringe, Roosevelt-haters.]

- Brown, J. M. "In the Grand Manner." *Seeing More Things*. New York: McGraw-Hill, 1948. 231–37. [Plays Medea to last drop of cruelty, frenzy, and revenge; text is streamlined; RJ's language has a driving quality.]
- Cray, J. B. "Olympian Judgment." *New York Times* 15 Feb. 1948, sec. 2: 3. [Objects to characters and passages left out of the play.]
- Cross, Leslie. "Robinson Jeffers vs. Mankind." *Journal* [Milwaukee, WI] 24 Oct. 1948, sec. 5: 4. [Deplores DA's political views; truculent book; poetry stirring and eloquent.]
- Dolan, Kathleen T. "Robinson Jeffers: Virile Poet of a Philosophy of Decay." Columbia University thesis, 1948. [Influence of war, sees civilized decadence; fate determined.]
- Dudley, Uncle [Ward Greene]. "The Double Axe." *Boston Globe* 5 Sept. 1948, 22. [May be his best work: sword blade dipped in blood.]
- Ferril, Thomas Hornsby. "The New Poetry." *San Francisco Chronicle, This World*. 7 Nov. 1948, 11. [Love of nature, passion for God, hatred of violence, RJ has saintly kinship with St. Francis.]
- Fitts, Dudley. "The Violent Mr. Jeffers." *New York Times Book Review* 22 Aug. 1948, 10. [DA: apoplectic shouting; a failure like his *Medea*.]
- Fitzgerald, Robert. "Oracles and Things." *New Republic* 119 (22 Nov. 1948): 22. [DA: childish in attitude; a sorry exhibition.]
- Freide, Donald. *The Mechanical Angel: His Adventures and Enterprises in the Glittering 1920s*. New York: Knopf, 1948. 230–31. [RJ's opera scenario.]
- Humphries, Rolfe. "Jeffers and Pound." *Nation* 167 (25 Sept. 1948): 349. [Attack on RJ's "Inhumanism"; he reveals no change or growth; but dignity.]
- Jeffers, Robinson. Foreword. *Medea*. Decca recording, 1948. SM. 216–20. [Compares Greek and Elizabethan tragedy: Euripides a genius; *M* a warning against presumptuous superiority of civilization; adaptation for Judith Anderson.]
- . "Poetry, Gongorism, and a Thousand Years." *New York Times Magazine* 18 Jan. 1948, sec. 6: 16+. [Poetry is not primitive genre, needs no school, tradition, great audience; hypothetical great poet would break from fashionable, learned, and obscure; would aim to be understood a hundred years hence; poetry not meant to civilize.]
- . Preface. *The Double Axe and Other Poems*. New York: Random House, 1948. vii–viii. [Shifting of emphasis from man to not-man; rejection of human solipsism; recognition of transhuman magnificence; neither misanthropic nor pessimistic but truth: reasonable detachment as rule of conduct. The "Original Preface" appears in 1948 Liveright reprint, 171–75.]
- Kupferman, Lawrence. "Mail Order Verse." *New York Times* 8 Feb. 1948, sec. 6: 5. [Letter replying to RJ's "Poetry, Gongorism, and a Thousand Years": he longingly glories in Greece; forgets poets express their age.]
- Lechlitner, Ruth. "A Prophet of Mortality." *New York Herald Tribune Weekly Book Review* 12 Sept. 1948, 4. [Questions propriety of publisher's disclaimer.]
- McCarthy, John R. "Jeffers' Anti-War Fervor." *Pasadena Star-News* 25 July 1948, book sec.: 35. [Important statement on eve of Third World War.]
- Miles, Josephine. "Pacific Coast Poetry, 1947." *Pacific Spectator* 2 (Spring 1948): 134–150. [Contrasts Yvor Winters's "To the Holy Spirit" with Jeffers's "Natural Music," preferring Winters's poem/view.]
- Nathan, George Jean. *Theater Book of the Year: 1947–1948*. New York: Knopf, 1948. 77–80, 104–12. ["Dear Judas" performance misguided and declamatory with sanctimonious staging; *M* much superior theatrically to the Gilbert Murray translation; grace in treatment; RJ indulges in his quenchless fancy for the grisly.]
- O'Connor, William Van. *Sense and Sensibility in Modern Poetry*. Chicago: U of Chicago P, 1948. 25, 50, and *passim*. [RJ's poetry close to prose, poetry of "impulses" rather than direction or structure.]

- “People Who Read and Write.” *New York Times Book Review* 3 Oct. 1948, 8. [Summarizes critical reception of *DA* as opposition to political content, unbalanced by appreciation for the poetry.]
- “Two Books on Verse.” *Bulletin from Virginia Kirkus Bookshop Service* 14 (1 June 1948): 276. [Cosmic sarcasm, fascism, part Sophocles, Lone Ranger, and Faulkner.]

1949

- Benét, William Rose. “Remembering the Poets: A Reviewer’s Vista.” *Saturday Review of Literature* 32 (6 Aug. 1949): 109. [Poems of terror and tragedy from the great and savage misanthrope of American poetry.]
- Conner, Frederick William. *Cosmic Optimism: A Study of the Interpretation of Evolution by American Poets from Emerson to Robinson*. Gainesville: U of Florida P, 1949. 332–39. [RJ made cosmic indifference a kind of Nirvana; cosmic optimism being a projection of human values, he prizes the non-human view; salvation is in abandoning humanity, imitating granite.]
- Demarest, Michael. “Californians: The Dark Glory.” *Script* 35 (Feb. 1949): 19–24. [RJ classed with Thomas Hardy, Sophocles, and Jeremiah.]
- Flewelling, Ralph. “Tragedy: Greece to California.” *Personalist* 30 (July 1949): 229–45. [Influence of Greeks on RJ: plumbs depth of moral darkness, a Cassandra.]
- Hackman, Martha. Review of *DA*. *Voices* 136 (Winter 1949): 54–56. [Too much violence and horror in narratives; lyrics repetitious and flat.]
- Powell, Lawrence Clark. *Robinson Jeffers: A Lecture to Professor James L. Wortham’s Class in Narrative Poetry Given on May 22, 1949*. Los Angeles: Press of Los Angeles City College, 1951. [Overview; out of fashion with New Critics’ ambiguity; such critics are the blind men describing the elephant.]
- Roddy, Joseph. “View from a Granite Tower.” *Theatre Arts* 33 (June 1949): 32–36. [Reviews RJ’s career as a famous dramatist, an outstanding phenomenon.]
- Rosenheim, Ned. “One Tiger on the Road.” *Poetry* 73 (Mar. 1949): 351–54. [Review of *DA*: prescinds from political themes; finds enormous power in parts of narratives; violence of shorter poems fails the test.]
- Van Doren, Mark. “The Poetry of Our Day Expresses Our Doubt and the Times’ Confusion.” *New York Herald Tribune Weekly Book Review* 25 Sept. 1949, 9. [Regrets that RJ long ago gave up mankind and continues to find sermons in the stones.]

*Back cover:* Leigh Wiener, whose photos also graced the front and back covers of *Jeffers Studies* 3.3, *Robinson Jeffers: A Bibliography of Half a Century of Criticism, 1950–1999*, here captures Robinson Jeffers reaching to carry his granddaughter Una down from the parapet of Hawk Tower. The occasion was an unprecedented three-day stay at Tor House in 1956, Leigh having shown up at the door unannounced but utterly intent on photographing one of America's premiere poets. Many of Wiener's photos have appeared in *Life*, *Time*, *Fortune*, *Sports Illustrated*, and other periodicals. He worked with speed, often catching celebrity subjects in candid and impromptu settings. In the field, as here, he frequently chose to photograph without a light meter, judging apertures and shutter speeds instinctively, which proved invaluable when his subject was spontaneous or conditions were less than ideal. Wiener authored eight books on photography, including *Portraits* and *How Do You Photograph People?* He wrote a regular column on photography for the *Los Angeles Times* and taught photography at UCLA. His work can be found featured in *Time-Life* books. Jeffers aficionados will remember him for the moving candid shots found in Ann Ridgeway's *The Selected Letters of Robinson Jeffers*.

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