IMMENSE BREAST OF THE HUGE SEA (1920)

then the sea-girls (seagulls) lifting up their redder than the jewel the secret word to the seaman's will

though the heavens harden the treasure hung down rounded

a piercing reed a blue-edged sword

a great battle ax consumes me sticky, salty sweetness, the slow withering offspring of breasts that are empty

skirt as flighty as a wing

I am a naughty lamb giving sphery grapes their sheen

The wood is talking in its sleep. branches finger the leaning moon

a marriage bed of moist green mould, kisses of her mouth like dew

pure as a naked flame, blue veins of morning glories, elfin-softly, the bluebells rang wild, wet words as beauty came:

in the rainbow in the sunlight in the rain

144

THE IOWA REVIEW



www.jstor.org

watered by mist and lashed fierce milk drips the wilted anger of her scarlet lips

slim, high-bosomed maidens bring flesh thrust to the sky one red, rebellious branch

some reach and climax, warped threshold of your mouth

prows, creamed with foam

out with the suns, throb loud let me rest

and close

145