

Professor F's Story · *James Laughlin*

Ἐνθάδε τὴν ἱερὴν κεφαλὴν κατὰ γαῖα καλύπτει,  
ἀνδρῶν ἡρώων κοσμήτορα, θεῖον Ὀμηπον.

Now the earth covers the sacred man, the divine Homer,  
who marshalled the heroes.

—The Greek Anthology, Book VII, 3.

And Ole Ez said that the  
thought of what America  
  
would be like if the clas-  
sics had a wide circulation  
  
troubled his sleep and Pro-  
fessor F the eminent classi-  
  
cist had a happy day when  
when he was crossing the  
  
campus and two comely coeds  
passed him on the walk and  
  
he heard one say to the other  
you know what I told him I  
  
said you remember the part  
where that Greek guy was  
  
dragging Hector around the  
walls of Troy and rubbing  
  
him in the dust I told him  
I hoped somebody would do  
  
the very same thing to him.