



This book is a potpourri or miscellany of serious, light, and nonsense poetry, accompanied by a few prose pieces.

ANIMAL LOVE AND OTHER STUFF

by John Combs

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Animal Love and Other Stuff



John Combs



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I. ANIMAL LOVE

Tygress

Tigress, Tigress,
Burning bright
in the forest
of my life,
I prize thy stripes
admire thy fire;
To thy love
I do aspire.

II. OTHER ANIMAL STUFF

Going to the Dogs

Dogs eat, dogs play
Dogs lie around all day.
I'm not a dog, as you can see,
But I think I might like to be.

III. SOMEWHAT MORE SERIOUS STUFF

Love Lock

The lock of my heart wells
For the barge of your love,
Lifting you forever
To the mainstream of my life.

(Written for Vicki on 10 May 1987 [our seventh anniversary] after breakfast overlooking the dam and lock at Hawesville)

IV. SOMEWHAT LESS SERIOUS STUFF and A FEW OTHER INANITIES

(Note: This section is provided for readers with a warped sense of humor and an impaired esthetic sensibility)

Status of Trees and Plants

The pine is yearning
The ash is burning
The fir is matting
The peach is ratting
The pear is halving
The cowslip is calving
The maple has a map
The apple has an app
The crape myrtle has a crap
The sassafras has an ass
The tulips are kissing
The sycamore is ailing
The hickory is countrified
The rose is rising
The dogwood is barking
The elm is steering (in England)
The hemlock is hawing
The bay tree is howling
The dove is cooing
The gums are chewing
The beech is sandy
The dandelion is dandy
The elderberry is looking for respect

V. ADIEU

Ninety Now

And now I have reached the far East of my life
I do not know what remains of the rest of my life
I wish I could return to the East of my life

I loved my East: shinny-shin-shin; Annie over;
Cowboys and Indians; red rover, red rover;
Ring around the posy; Let John come over.

Still close to my eastern start
I met a woman who stole my heart.
A dinner/dance, a blind date;
A few months later she became my mate.
And soon came children, all boys,
Who brought us both countless joys.

But west, west, west, inexorably west.

Near the middle of my life,
I met and wed my second wife.
Astraddle my Prime Meridian we stood
With feet in two hemispheres; life was good.
In my prime I defeated a malignant tumor
With medics, mate's support, and humor.
And life was good between East and West.

But west, west, west, unrelentingly west.



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