

# The Heaven Novelettos

## Book Three





# The Heaven Novelettos

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To David!

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# An Honored Guest



**W**hen I say

Miss Go Chi

Is used to

The angels

I mean

From a

Distance

She has

Seen cones

Of light

In the woods

Near North

## The Heaven Novelettos

Bennington

On this

Starry

Morning

An angel

In full

Regalia

Blocks her path

One windy

Day in

Chappaqua

He got back

## Objects in Heaven

Out of an

SUV

To light her

Cigarette

Miss Go loves

Young people

So she

Let him

Do it

His lighter

Looked foreign

At first it

## The Heaven Novelettos

Didn't work

He wondered

Aloud

If he had

Left it out

All night

Then thought

He had

Smoked that

Morning

She ended

Up inside

## Objects in Heaven

His new

Leather

Jacket

This is

So nice

Of you

She said

He replied

Well you

Know what

They say

Pretty

## The Heaven Novelettos

People don't

Light their

Own smokes

As he

Drove away

She felt

Great joy

Now he

Tells her

You have a

Visitor

Miss Go zooms

## Objects in Heaven

Back to

Booth House

Passing

The tree

That fills

Her room

With yellow

Light on

Cold autumn

Mornings

What are you

Doing

## The Heaven Novelettos

Here cries

Esther

Where are

David and

Leo?

David's

At work

And Leo

Is napping

Did he come

From a

Roadside

## Objects in Heaven

Bazaar?

I knew

You'd know

I sent him!

He's a real

Russian

Blue from

Siberia

A hundred

Fifty

Miles south

Of the

## The Heaven Novelettos

Arctic

Circle

Miss Go

Chimes in

Like the

Angel

Who said

You were here

He is

Outlandish

In his

Beauty and

## Objects in Heaven

Goodness

Let's go

Up to

Commons

I want you

To meet my

Teacher

Po Chü-i

We will

Find him

Eating a

Drake Cake

## The Heaven Novelettos

From the  
Snack bar  
They remind  
Me of his

Poem  
One day  
Dust will  
Fly up

From the  
Ocean floor  
And the  
Mountains

## Objects in Heaven

Will crumble

Into stones

Po is

Not there

We are

Old friends

Esther

Tells her

Do you

Really like

His work

She asks

## The Heaven Novelettos

As they walk

To the Barn

To visit

Miss Fine

•

**Teng Fang**

Is that you?

A small man

Who looks

Like a

Pine nut

In a

Scholar's hat

And gown

Says Eat

Three meal

Common

## The Heaven Novelettos

Dining room

Write poem

Protest

Dragon

Hide in cloud

Go near sun

Go around

Come out

Travel sky

Look for

Flaming

Pearl

## **An Honored Guest**

Breathe smoke

Breathe fire

Debris

Contain

Bacteria

Bring life

And death

To people

Lost in mist

Downwind of

Himalaya

Catch virus

## The Heaven Novelettos

Do you

Remember

My robe from

Lord &

Taylor?

They called

To ask

About

My rash

I never said

I had

A rash

## **An Honored Guest**

I can't breathe

For five

Minutes in

Polyester!

I can't

Either

I have

To leave

Later

And go

To the

Dentist

## The Heaven Novelettos

Do you

Remember

When we

Went to

Turkewitz?

Memorize

Poem

Says Teng

Go back to

Red Dust

Get born

Grow up

## An Honored Guest

Write out

Poem

Get fame

Denied by

Early death

Don't do

It cries

Esther

Stay here

Let some-

One else

Write it

## The Heaven Novelettos

She purses

Her lips

And nods

Abruptly

They are

Comets

Says Miss Go

Ha ha ha

He laughs

These two

Gentlemen

Same same

## An Honored Guest

He is a

Genius

Esther

Whispers

He passed

The exam

But didn't

Get a

Stipend

Was engaged

But never

Married

## The Heaven Novelettos

But he did

Like Po's

Early

Poems

•

**Why** is this

Wonderful

Library

With a

Complete

Set of

Bake-Off

Cookbooks

Empty

Worries

Esther

We are

## The Heaven Novelettos

Having a

Square dance

Tonight

Everyone

Is busy

Sewing

Circle

Skirts says

Miss Fine

We are

Wearing ours

Says her

## **An Honored Guest**

Colleague

Miss Richter

Doing

A twirl

Is Dior

Really here?

I want

To get

The exact

Right length

Esther

Tells them

## The Heaven Novelettos

She and

Miss Go

Cross the lawn

And join

A line

To stand

On the

Dais

Dior good-

naturedly

Measures

Like mad

## **An Honored Guest**

Wearing their

Swirly

New skirts

They climb

The stairs in

Commons

There is

Ice cream

For dessert

Esther's

Eyes shine

Bennington

## The Heaven Novelettos

Is so

Much fun

She says to

Miss Go's

Suitemate

Ynez

With whom

She feels

A bond

They all

Walk up

To the

## An Honored Guest

Carriage Barn

Chinese

Poets

In their

Musty

Old robes

Other

Gentlemen

In long-

Sleeve shirts

Modern

Dancers

## The Heaven Novelettos

Wearing

Black ballet

Slippers

The singing

Caller

Says Form

Your sets

Honor

Your partner

And your

Corner

Salute your

## **An Honored Guest**

Opposite

Everyone

Swing your

Honey

Swing her

High and low

The inside

High and the

Outside low

And down

Around

The set

## The Heaven Novelettos

You go

First couple

Half circle

Right it's

Over and

Below

Then you go

Right thru

To the

Opposite

Two and

Everybody

## An Honored Guest

Swing oh

You swing

Your pretty

Little

Redwing

You promenade

Her

And serenade

Her

High above

You the

Leaves are

## The Heaven Novelettos

Sighing

The stars are

Shining

As you take

Her home

Second

Couple

Half circle

Right the

Inside

Couple arch

Then go

## **An Honored Guest**

Right thru

To the

Opposite

Two and

Every-

Body swing

This is

The best

Lemonade

Esther says

During

A break

## The Heaven Novelettos

Miss Go

Kisses

Her and

Is gone

•

**Miss Go**

Parks her

Car in

Mt. Kisco

Feeds the

12-hour

Meter

Fourteen

Quarters

And takes

A train

To the

## The Heaven Novelettos

City

The hour-long

Ride is

Bumpy

Reading

A book

On *The*

*Nature of*

*Comets*

She is

Struck by

Two plates

## **An Honored Guest**

The first

Because

She likes

The art

The second

Recalls

Cardboard

Dragons

Connected

With string

She saw

As a child

## The Heaven Novelettos

At the

Ben Franklin

Store in

St. Paul

Comets

Break up

She reads

And large

Pieces

Follow each

Other

In orbit

## **An Honored Guest**

Indeed one

Is known

By the

Name String

Of Pearls

The Endo-

dontist

Is on

60th

Between

Park and Lex

Walking

## The Heaven Novelettos

Uptown

On Park

Avenue

She cuts

Thru the

Lobby of

The Waldorf

In the

Doctor's

Office

She reads

About

## **An Honored Guest**

A cloud

Around

Jupiter

Filled with

Young comets

And laughs

At a

Drawing

Of their

Eccentric

Orbits

Burning gas

## The Heaven Novelettos

They crash

And collide

Causing

Meteor

Streams and

Showers

Walking

Back to

Grand Central

She passes

The Waldorf

And sees

## **An Honored Guest**

Her friends

Getting in

Ynez's

Auto

As she

Waits for

The twelve

Forty-

Eight to

Come in

On track

110

## The Heaven Novelettos

They are

Riding home

Among

The stars

### **Notes for An Honored Guest**

For Teng Fang see “Reading Teng Fang’s Poems” by Po Chü-i in *Po Chü-i Selected Poems* translated by Burton Watson. New York: Columbia, 2000.

For Lost in mist downwind of Himalya catch virus see *A Journey with Fred Hoyle The Search for Cosmic Life* by Chandra Wickramasinghe. Hackensack, NJ: World Scientific, 2005.

*The Nature of Comets* by Nikolaus B. Richter, Translated and Revised by Arthur Beer. London: Methuen, 1963.



# Star Radio



I see a

Man in a

Camel

Hair coat

You seem

Surprised

I am

He is a

Large man

The last time

I saw

Harvey

## The Heaven Novelettos

Winter

He was

Fifteen

It was

At a

Party

For his

Parents'

Twenty-fifth

Anniversary

Now he is

Looking

## Star Radio

Into the

Disappearance

Of his

Sister

He thinks

She was

Last seen

Speaking

To the

Hadassah

His wife

Janelle

## The Heaven Novelettos

Was in the

Audience

With her

Mother-

In-law

Marsha

A woman

Commented

You must

Be proud

Of your

Daughter

## Star Radio

Miss Go

Who is

Taking

This down

Pauses

To neaten

Her pages

Marsha

Coldly

Replies

I'd rather

Have grand-

## The Heaven Novelettos

Children

*Kayna-*

*Hora no*

*Evil eye!*

•

I was born

To have

My own

Comic strip

Instead

I became

A fortune

Teller

Can you

Help me

Find my

Sister

## The Heaven Novelettos

Maxine

Winter?

She's a

CPA

She gave

A talk

Here at the

Waldorf

And vanished

Into

Thin air

Her views are

## Star Radio

Contro-

versial

There's a

Summit

Of world

Leaders

Staying here

I am

Getting

A message

About a

Cashmere

## The Heaven Novelettos

Sweater

That's her

Best friend

Mimi

Wiener

Please don't

Interrupt

Sorry

When you

Interrupt

Like that

You make me

## Star Radio

Doubt myself

Door on

Park opens

In walks

Maxine

Harvey

Why are

You here?

Mother

And Dad

Are in

Miami

## The Heaven Novelettos

And you

Never

Answer

The phone!

I took

A suite

In the

Tower

Living here

Is such fun

Come up

And I'll

## Star Radio

Order lunch

Between

Sessions

With Star

Radio

Miss Go

Looks at

Photos of

Comet Wild

She is the

Type to

Have a crush

## The Heaven Novelettos

On a

Comet

His portrait

Haunts her

•

**H**ere comes

The wife of

The famous

Song writer

May I see

That tiger?

It's by

Russel Wright

It's my

Last one

I sold

His work

## The Heaven Novelettos

When I

Was at

485

Madison

Avenue

This will

Interest you

He designed

The first

Jukebox for

Wurlitzer

Man screams

## Star Radio

He also

Invented the

Sectional

Sofa

Rare book

Dealer

Screams again

Here's Rena's

Window

How would

That lamp

Look in

## The Heaven Novelettos

Maxine's room?

Let's get

Going

Marsha!

Hello

Chef Arno

I must

Tell you

You look like

Perry

Como

We'll take the

## **Star Radio**

Kosher style

Menu

Reception

7:30

PM

Hot and cold

Hors d' oeuvres

The carving

Board and

Silver trays

Dinner

Service

## The Heaven Novelettos

9:30

PM Beef

Wellington

And chafing

Dishes

On rolling

Tables with

Assorted

Crepes flambes

After petit

Fours and

Coffee the

## Star Radio

Viennese

Service

1:00

AM

On the

Starlight

Terrace

For two

Hundred guests

Two hundred?

This is the

List from

## The Heaven Novelettos

Harvey's

Bar Mitzvah

I'd better

Get back

To the

Office

So I can

Pay for it!

One minute

I want to

Make sure

We have

## Star Radio

The stuffed

Freshwater

Fish en

Frill and

Assorted

Crackers

I'm going

To confide

In you

Harvey

I don't want

To marry

## The Heaven Novelettos

Marvin

Well you can't

Make *me*

Marry him

It's bad

Enough

I ate your

Green beans

Every

Night you

Put them on

My plate

## Star Radio

He was so

Happy

When he

Proposed

I couldn't

Tell him my

Answer

Was no

Say you

Have TB

You just have

To cough

## The Heaven Novelettos

I'll call

Him now

He's not in

Did you

See Marvin?

Take it

Easy

She could

Be his

Secretary

I'll call

Chef Arno

## Star Radio

And cancel

Sit down

Maxine

We have

Something

To tell you

The wedding

Is off

We saw

Marvin

With a girl

How does

## The Heaven Novelettos

He know

I have TB?

Harvey coughs

Are you

Okay

Harvey?

It is our

Anniversary

I'll call

Miss Bow at

Tiffany

And change the

## Star Radio

Invitation

It all

Worked out

For the best

Where are

You going

Maxine?

I have to

Find Marvin

*That was his*

*Cousin from*

*Chicago*

## The Heaven Novelettos

*She came*

*For an*

*Audition*

*This is*

*The room*

Knock knock

Enter!

Mother

I'm at

The Waldorf

Mr. Brooks

Wants to

## Star Radio

Speak to you

Put him on

Mr. Brooks

We'd like the

Miniature

Latkes

I'm a

Director

Then you

Should know

A latke!

This is

## The Heaven Novelettos

My brother

Harvey

Harvey

Mr. Brooks

A lady

In glasses

Is staring

At me

That's our aunt

Did she go

To Temple

University?

## Star Radio

Leave Gold Room

Arrive

Starlight Roof

Doors open

9:15

Dancing

Between

Courses

I think

I saw

Marvin

Lurking

## The Heaven Novelettos

Outside

Brooks dips

Maxine

She tells him

My father

Says Holly-

Wood is

Out of

The question

Your father

Is right

You know

## Star Radio

You should

Stay home

And get

Married

Maxine claps

For the

Orchestra

In her

Pretty

New dress

Adjournment

2:00 AM

## The Heaven Novelettos

Let's look

In Rena's

Window

What do you

Think of

That lamp?

Maxine

Wake up

You're in

A trance

All you do

Is study

## Star Radio

Why don't you

Call Mimi?

All she

Ever

Talks about

Is her

Thirty-two

Cashmere

Sweaters

How many

Do you have?

I don't know

## The Heaven Novelettos

Harvey

A fine

Accountant

You'll be!

Ring-ring

Hello?

Mimi's

On the phone

Tell her I'm

Not home

Two of my

Cashmere

## Star Radio

Sweaters

Are at

The cleaner's

Marsha

Covers

Mouthpiece

I see what

You mean!

I'm not

Myself

Try to

Think of

## The Heaven Novelettos

Something else

I have

To go

My roast

Is burning

Are you

Making

Dinner

Mother?

Of course not

On Cook's

Night out

## Star Radio

We eat

At the

Waldorf

It's just

A quick walk

Here is your

Table

Where is your

Lovely

Daughter?

Don't ask

She's home

## The Heaven Novelettos

Studying

Father shrugs

Unaware

That under

Her cupcake

Exterior

Maxine

Has brains

•

**Maxine**

Dies on the

Long Island

Expressway

Going

To a

Client's

Party

And on her

Way home

Among

The stars

## The Heaven Novelettos

She sees

A silver

Strato-

Cruiser

Does she

Return

To the

Red Dust

To be a

Stewardess?

Stay tuned to

VBLI

## Star Radio

Life is

Faster

On earth

Than it

Is in

Heaven

Miss Go's

Suitemate

Ynez

Knocks at

Her door

Are you

## The Heaven Novelettos

Coming

Up to

Dinner?

Miss Go

Grabs her

Jacket

And they

Exit

It is

Comforting

To note

We are

## Star Radio

Only

Images

Projected

From afar

Our souls

Are in

The stars

So if a

Comet

Destroys us

We will

Survive

## The Heaven Novelettos

And our

Stories

Will be on

The air

## **Notes for Star Radio**

For Comet Wild see *A Journey with Fred Hoyle The Search for Cosmic Life* by Chandra Wickramasinghe. Hackensack, NJ: World Scientific, 2005.

For Rena Rosenthal see *Art Deco Sculpture & Metalware* by Alfred W. Edward. Atglen, PA: Schiffer, 1996.

For Russel Wright see *Russel Wright American Designer* by William J. Hennessey. Cambridge: The MIT Press, 1983.

For menu see *Notes from the Chef's Desk* by Arno B. Schmidt, Executive Chef the Waldorf-Astoria. Boston: Cahners Books International, 1977. (Does not accent flambé)



# Machado in Heaven



The air

Is cold

The ground

Is white

Miss Go Chi

Is in

Heaven

Walking

From Booth

House to

Commons

Her friend

## The Heaven Novelettos

Esther

Is there

In a

Window

Seat with

A man

Wearing

A worn

Dark coat

And gray

Fedora

He is

## Machado in Heaven

Saying

In the end

I owe you

Nothing

You owe me

What I have

Written

I turn to

My work

With what

I've earned

I pay for

## The Heaven Novelettos

My clothes

The house

In which

I live

The food

That feeds

My body

The bed

In which

I sleep

As his

Mother

## Machado in Heaven

Comes from

The snack bar

Carrying

Three cups

Of coffee

Miss Go

Tells him

In his

Translation

Of a

Selection

Of your

## The Heaven Novelettos

Poems

Robert Bly

Added

Your hat

It is her

Favorite

Line in

The book

**N**ext morning

Wearing her

Nightgown

Under her

Trench coat

Miss Go

Sits on

A sofa

In Canfield

Living room

Machado

Fills a

## The Heaven Novelettos

Wing chair

Some girls

Sit on

The floor

A dazed

Looking girl

Hands him

The largest

Box of

Chocolates

Miss Go has

Ever seen

## Machado in Heaven

He passes

It around

Miss Go

Selects

A dark

Rectangle

The filling

Is pink

And chewy

She waits

For the box

To come

## The Heaven Novelettos

Around

Again

But this time

Time it's

Only

A cream

The dazed-

Looking

Girl has a

Shopping bag

What else

Is in it

## Machado in Heaven

Miss Go

Wonders

Oh says

The girl

They are

Presents

I guess

It was

Christmas

Gold is

Abundant

In Heaven

## The Heaven Novelettos

And clothes

Of course

And books

But man-made

Objects

Are rare

Miss Go

Looks in

The bag

She sees books

And a

Pair of

## Machado in Heaven

Silver

Earrings

By Ed

Levin

Machado

Is saying

My friend

Juan Ramón

Jiménez

Says always

I walk

With death

## The Heaven Novelettos

But I am  
Surprised  
To be here  
Por favor

Write a  
Poem  
About the  
Chocolates

You have  
Eaten  
Class ends  
Everyone

## Machado in Heaven

Leaves for

Commons

Miss Go

Stays behind

For a

Moment

To look

Up her

Chocolate

On the

Map printed

Inside

## The Heaven Novelettos

The lid

It is

Roman

Nougat

•

**T**hat night

At a

Concert in

Commons

As Blind

Lemon

Jackson

Is led

Offstage

Miss Go

Who is

Seated

## The Heaven Novelettos

In the row

Behind

Nemerov

Machado

Teng Fang

Po Chü-i

T'ao Chien

And Dior

And his

Chauffeur

Looks around

Her special

## Machado in Heaven

Angel

Is there

In his

Street clothes

Now Lead

Belly

Walks on

Holding a

Twelve-string

Guitar

When I was

A cowboy

## The Heaven Novelettos

He sings

Out on the

Western plains

When I was

A cowboy

Out on the

Western plains

I made a

Half a

Million

Pulling

On the

## Machado in Heaven

Bridle reins

Come-a-

Cow-cow

Yicky

Come-a-

Cow-cow

Yicky

Yicky yea

If you

Ever feel

Cheated

On earth

## The Heaven Novelettos

Of seeing

The stars

In their

Glory

Hear Lead

Belly sing

About

Texas

Julie Ann

Johnson

Hah

Oh Lord

## Machado in Heaven

Hah

Julie Ann

Johnson

Hah

Oh Lord

Gonna

Leave you

Hah

Oh Lord

Gonna

Leave you

Hah

## The Heaven Novelettos

Po says

Chinese

Folk song

Same same

Lovely

Girl pick

Flower

Oh!

Small red

Powder face

Oh!

Ha ha ha

## Machado in Heaven

Confucius

Collect

Music

Bureau

After the

Last encore

Everyone

Walks down

The wooden

Stairs and

Goes outside

In time

## The Heaven Novelettos

To hear

Lead Belly's

Muffler

As his old

Car drives

Away

The angel

Appears

And asks

Miss Go

If she'd

Like a ride

## Machado in Heaven

To the  
Red Dust  
Of course  
She agrees

They walk  
To the  
Parking  
Lot and

Get in  
His red  
SUV  
Maybe I

## The Heaven Novelettos

Can catch

Some Zs

On your

Sofa

He says

Red Dust

Makes me

Sleepy

Angels have

Never been

Human

So this

## Machado in Heaven

Is a

Problem

They stop at

Governor

Yang's diner

For tea

And wafers

To go

New pot

And cup

Shouts the

Governor

## The Heaven Novelettos

The cups

Look like

Snowballs

Miss Go

Exclaims

Gift of

Daze girl

Governor

Yang shouts

You want

Powder

Sugar?

## Machado in Heaven

She doesn't

Expect

The angel

To speak

About his

Mission

Speech seems

Foreign

To him

Suddenly

Miss Go

Remembers

## The Heaven Novelettos

She has

Psychic

Duty

At the

Switchboard

In Commons

She tells

The angel

Who says

Not a

Problem

Her friend

## Machado in Heaven

Ynez

Drives her

Back to school

Saying

Who is the

Gorgeous

Young man

You were

Talking to

I've never

Seen him

Before

## The Heaven Novelettos

Miss Go

Can't answer

Doesn't know

Protocol

•

**My** client

Is a

Great niece

Of Hugh-die

Ledbetter

Does he

Have a

Message

For her?

I saw him

Perform

Tonight

## The Heaven Novelettos

But he's

Back on

The road

What is

The name of

Your client?

Her name is

Irene

Well the last

Song he

Sang was

Goodnight

## Machado in Heaven

Irene

I'll see

You in

My dreams

I didn't

Know you all

Slept up there!

We do

Life is

Much the

Same as

On earth

## The Heaven Novelettos

Only pure

Do you see

Angels?

I see them

From a

Distance

Though there

Is one

I sort

Of know

Then he

Is your

## Machado in Heaven

Guardian

Angel

But like

Karl Barth

Miss Go

Doesn't

Believe

In them

She agrees

They are

Ministers

Of their

## The Heaven Novelettos

Government

With the

Power to

Act on

Their own

Tightening

Sagging

Spirits

As Lead

Belly

Tunes his

Strings after

## Machado in Heaven

Each song

My father's

Funeral

Was on

A sunny

Fall day

Miss Go

Tells her

His flag-draped

Coffin

Was carried

Out to

## The Heaven Novelettos

The hearse

In the

Alley

Behind the

Synagogue

A Golden

Retriever

Puppy

Jumped in

After him

My dad

Loved dogs

## Machado in Heaven

The puppy

Was so

Happy

No one

Scolded him

And he

Jumped out

I think

He was an

Angel

We drove past

The white

## The Heaven Novelettos

And green tile

Former

Lieutenant

Governors

Mansion

Where Dad

Grew up

And took

In strays

He kept

Them above

The garage

## Machado in Heaven

It had

Its own

Filling

Station

Two cannon

And two

Cement

Lions

Stood at

The front

Walkway

There were

## The Heaven Novelettos

Cement

Reindeer—

Esther

Enters with

Coffee

Followed by

Machado's

Mother

Switchboard

Lights up

Oh darn it

I have

## Machado in Heaven

To go

I have

To take some

More calls

I really

Enjoyed

Talking

With you

When you

Come please

Look me

Up at

## The Heaven Novelettos

Bennington

Hello

Psychic

Hotline!

## **Notes for Machado in Heaven**

For “In the end I owe you nothing” see *Times Alone Selected Poems of Antonio Machado Chosen and Translated by Robert Bly*. Connecticut: Wesleyan, 1983.

For My friend Juan Ramón Jiminéz see *The Dream Below the Sun Selected Poems of Antonio Machado Translated by Willis Barnstone, Antonio Machado: A Reminiscence by Juan Ramón Jiminéz*. Trumansberg, NY: The Crossing Press, 1981.

For Karl Barth see *Angels Their Mission and Message* by Charles R. Jaekle. Connecticut: Morehouse Publishing, 1995.

For lyrics of Lead Belly songs see *Lead Belly Memorial (album) Volume 2 Stinson SLP No. 19*.



# Objects in Heaven



**Sally**

The teapot

Is going

Shopping

Which of my

*Chapeaux*

Shall I wear

She wonders

She has

A large

Collection

Of hats

## The Heaven Novelettos

Each one

Gives a

Different

Aspect

Of her

Personality

She finds

A blue

Glass plate

What will

You do with

A plate

## Objects in Heaven

Dior asks

It is a

*Moment*

*Critique*

Wear it

She says

If there

Is no lid

A plate

May be

Used in

Its stead

## The Heaven Novelettos

Sally's

Lid was lost

Her spout

Is chipped

She thinks

The chip

Gives her

Distinction

I'd rather

Be me

She cries

Inwardly

## Objects in Heaven

On seeing

A pot

With its

Matching lid

Bon says

Dior

It is chic

Sally says

She is

Russian

She made

Her way

## The Heaven Novelettos

First to

Helsinki

Then to

New York

Where I

Started the

Punk Look

Come he says

We will

Show you

To Mme

Marguerite

## Objects in Heaven

Who has just

Arrived

She's my

Premiere

(Head of

Workrooms)

He steps

Down from

The attic

And pushes

The stairs

Back to the

## The Heaven Novelettos

Ceiling

Freshmen

Who live

In the

Central hall

Exclaim

Miss Go

Hears them

From her room

In the left

Wing as

You face

## Objects in Heaven

The back of  
Booth House  
And goes  
To see

What is  
Happening  
Mme  
Marguerite

Elegantly  
Walks down  
The hall  
Dior

## The Heaven Novelettos

Greets her

Kissing

Her on

Both cheeks

•

**Why** you

Here shouts

Governor

Yang

You too

Tiny

Work at

Diner

Sally

Tells him her

Story

No value

## The Heaven Novelettos

Heaven

He shouts

Everything

Use or go

But Sally

Belongs

To a

Family

Of mice

Who perished

On a

Voyage

## Objects in Heaven

To France

They lived

Near the

Waldorf

When a

Reception

Was in

Progress

Where is

Sylvia?

I want

To dance

## The Heaven Novelettos

With her

We just

Got married

We have the

First dance

Ladies and

Gentlemen

The bride

And groom!

Aren't they

A lovely

Couple

## Objects in Heaven

Sylvia

Is in

LA

She got a

Bitsy

Part in a

Movie

Let's go to

LA

On our

Honeymoon

We're going

## The Heaven Novelettos

To Paris

We sail this

Afternoon

Change of

Plan darling

Be spon-

taneous!

When are we

Sailing

Gerda?

We sail this

Afternoon

## Objects in Heaven

There is

The girl

From our

Bus tour

She is

Starring in

A movie

What did she

Do to

Her hair?

They gave

Her a

## The Heaven Novelettos

Poodle cut

She plays

A girl

Raised by

Wolves who

Becomes an

Apache

Dancer

It is

So nice

To see you

Again

## Objects in Heaven

Heinrich will

Help you

Learn your

Role on

The boat

My uncle

Wrote that

Book you're

Reading

\_\_\_\_\_

Is your

Uncle?!

## The Heaven Novelettos

Sylvia

Goes out

To Park

Avenue

The groom

Hurries

After her

Brushing

Sharp cheese

And water

Cracker

From his

## Objects in Heaven

Tail coat

Sylvia

Is that you?

I thought

You were

In LA

I'm on

My way to

Paris

I sail this

Afternoon

The mice

## The Heaven Novelettos

Wait in a

Shadow

Of the

Edifice

To eat

Crumbs so

Delicious

That from

That day

Forward

They read

Eat and

## Objects in Heaven

Sleep on

Brochures

About

Paris

They go

To the docks

Their bags

Are packed

With little

Berets

Striped shirts

And red

## The Heaven Novelettos

Bandanas

Stolen from

The toy

Department

At Macy's

Before

They leave

They eat

The evidence

They are

Planning

A heist

## Objects in Heaven

Gruyere

Sandwiche

And no one

Gets hurt

Now they

Audit

The class

Of Wallace

Fowlie

Tiny eyes

Shining

In the

## The Heaven Novelettos

Hope that

One day

They have

The good

Fortune

To try a

Bite of

Madeleine

•

**Esther**

Is seated

In Commons

With a

Chinese

Scholar

Dad breathes

Miss Go

She has been

Thinking

Of him

But this is

## The Heaven Novelettos

Li Chien

Po Chü-i's

Friend from

The days

Of Hanlin

Institute

Ha ha ha

Laughs Li

Centuries

Passed in

The Red

Dust below

## Objects in Heaven

Mean nothing

When hearts

Are pure and

Aligned with

The mind

As in Po's

Beautiful

Poem

That says

At night

I dream

I am back

## The Heaven Novelettos

In Ch'ang-an

I see the

Faces of

Old friends

And in

My dreams

Under an

April sky

They lead

Me by

The hand

Thru the

## Objects in Heaven

Spring winds

We come

To the

Village

Of Peace

And Quiet

Stop our

Horses

At Yüan

Chen's gate

He is

Sitting

## The Heaven Novelettos

Alone

A smile

Comes to

His face

He seems

To say

Neither

Of us

Has changed

Which room

Was the

Painting

## Objects in Heaven

Studio

Esther

Asks as

She and

Miss Go

Climb the

Wooden stairs

To the

Dining room

I can't

Remember

Says Miss Go

## The Heaven Novelettos

This is and

Is not

Bennington

The mountain

Across

Commons

Could be in

Afghanistan

Dinner is

Subgum

Chow Mein

With white

## Objects in Heaven

Rice and

Crispy

Noodles

Everyone

Gets a

Glassine

Envelope

Of cashews

To sprinkle

On it

Soy sauce

Bottles

## The Heaven Novelettos

Stand on

All the

Tables

The chow is

Stir-fried to

Perfection

Over a

High flame

In a red

Hot wok

So the

Colors

## Objects in Heaven

Of the

Vegetables

Are at

Their peak

Chinese

Mushroom

Bean sprout

Celery

Bamboo shoot

Snow pea

Water

Chestnut

## The Heaven Novelettos

The mice

Quietly

Eat their

Portion

Without

Even

A sip

Of tea

Finally

Sally

Calls from

Inside

## Objects in Heaven

Dior's

Pocket

Where she

Lies with

His charms

The gilt star

The two

Hearts and

The small

Piece of wood

Will you

Please let

## The Heaven Novelettos

Me out

The mice

Joyfully

Pass their

Little cup

Around

Their little

Table

Thinking

About

Madeleines

Until

## Objects in Heaven

Po who

Teaches

Bake-Off

Says to

Li and

Nemerov

We bake

Madeleine

Cookie

Dip tea

Write out

Memory

## The Heaven Novelettos

Sometimes

I think

I can

Smell the

Oil and

Turpentine

Miss Go

Admits

She thinks

Of the

Painting

Of hers

## Objects in Heaven

Esther

Liked best

When I

Get back to

The Red

Dust on

Saturday

I am

Going

To ask

My friend

Katy

## The Heaven Novelettos

To take my

Easel

Down from the

Attic

•

If as

Swedenborg

Wrote the

Infinite

Can't ask

But we

Show at

Least a

Minimum

Of interest

He will

Kindle

## The Heaven Novelettos

It into

A sacred

Fire without

Violating

The divine

Principle

Of freedom

This law

Appears

To be

That our

Willing

## Objects in Heaven

Should excite

His willing

This is why

Miss Go

Has the

Run of

Heaven

And her dogs

Barla

And Corey

Are there

And there are

## The Heaven Novelettos

Even mice

As in

Cinder-

Ella

## Notes for Objects in Heaven

For Mme. Marguerite see *Christian Dior and I* by Christian Dior. New York: E.P. Dutton, 1957.

For Li Chien see “The Hat Given to the Poet by Li Chien” in *A Hundred and Seventy Chinese Poems Translated by Arthur Waley*. New York: Knopf, 1919.

For The chow is stir fried to perfection see *The Easy Way to Chinese Cooking* by Beverly Lee. New York: Doubleday, 1963.

For contents of Dior’s pocket see *Christian Dior The Man Who Made the World Look New* by Marie-France Pochina. New York: Arcade, 1996.

For If as Swedenborg wrote see *Emanuel Swedenborg Scientist and Mystic* by Signe Toksvig, Yale University, 1948.

