

3. *The Heart Is A Lonely Hunter* (Boston: Houghton Mifflin Company, 1940), p. 39.
4. *Relections In A Golden Eye* (New York: Bantam Books, 1950), p. 125.
5. The café of *The Ballad of the Sad Café* symbolizes this means of humanizing humanity, and also the fragility of all human achievement in this area.
6. *The Member of the Wedding*, pp. 91-92.
7. *The Heart Is A Lonely Hunter*, p. 41.
8. Printed in Oliver Evans, *Carson McCullers, Her Life and Work*, (London: Peter Owen, 1965), p. 195.
9. *Clock Without Hands*, p. 157. Probably Mrs. McCullers was remembering W. H. Auden's "As I Walked Out One Evening" when she wrote this passage. Her long acquaintance with Auden, his publication of selections of Kierkegaard, and the cynical voice of the city clock in the Auden poem, are too striking a combination of circumstances to be disregarded.

BLESSED CONDEMNATION

Helen Sue Isely

Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it.

—George Santayana

If I could swing remembrance arcs like scythes,
in great swish-swashes I would reap the stemmy
hours and days succulent with you.

My spirit's metal is shiny seismograph
to yours, quivers to your changing thoughts,
and in your absence, idles quiverless.

Memory's dull knife does not secure
perception's flash. Love wields a sharper wit:
what can't be kept is clasped and re-exclaimed.

Renewal's star-shell zooms through bleak forgetting.
Like earth, empowered with lightburst every dawn
by spinning through the darkness of each night,

I can but warm and chill and warm again.