

**THE BUZZARDS,
AND OTHER POEMS**

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The buzzards, and other poems by Martin Armstrong

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MARTIN ARMSTRONG

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AND OTHER POEMS**

T H E B U Z Z A R D S
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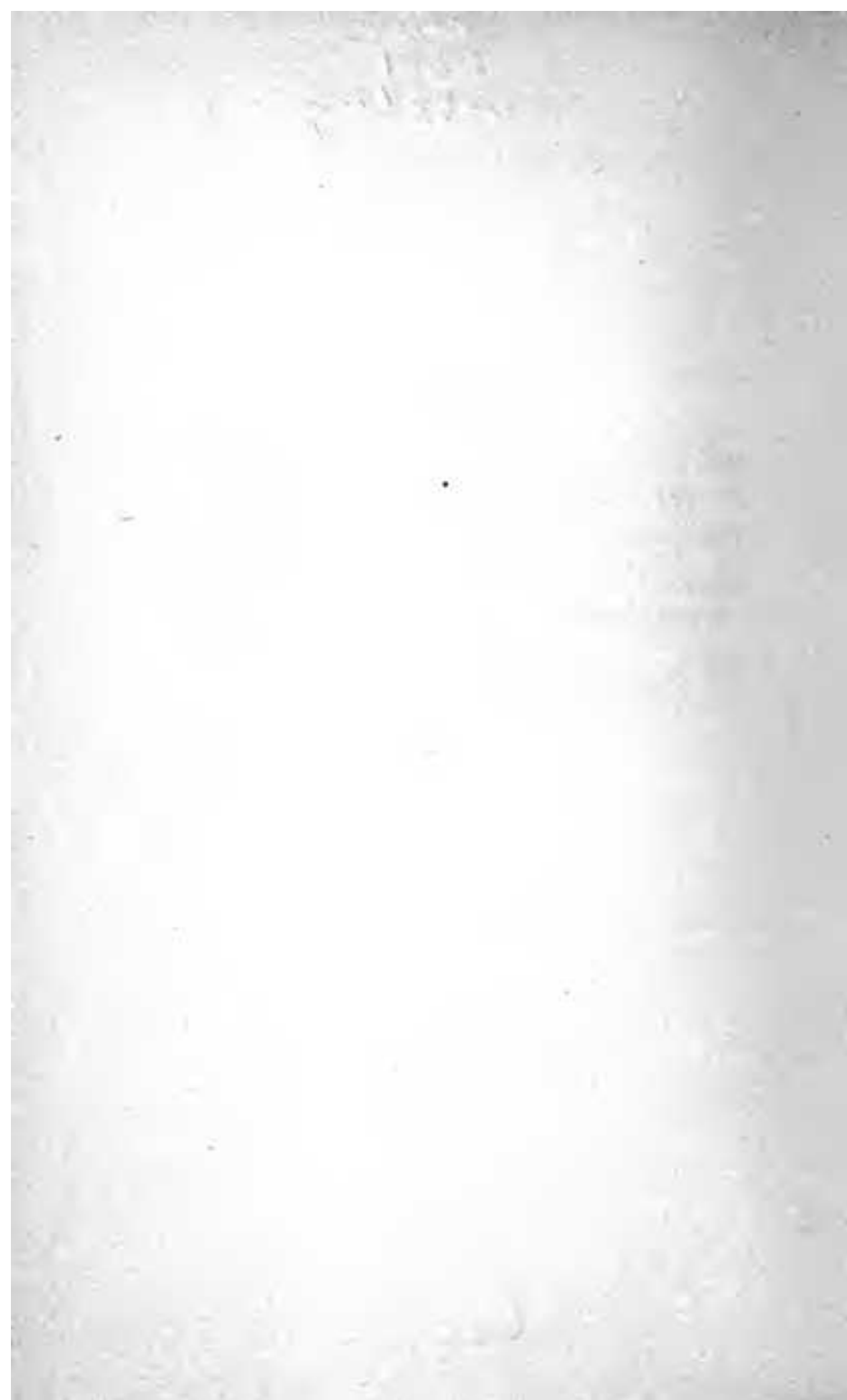
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NOTE

MANY of these poems have appeared in *The Athenæum*, *The British Review*, *The Century Magazine*, *The London Mercury*, and *The New Statesman*: and two, "Cowardice" and "Spring in Campania" are reprinted from a former volume published in 1912.

M. A.

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TWO GARDEN PIECES

I

Birds, whose clear singing reaches
To furthest corners of these still garden-halls
Pillared with ancient beeches
And floored with quiet green
Of smoothly-spreading lawns, where falls
Sunlight—golden, warm, serene,
Laid like shining banners in between
The long boughs' falls :
O birds, your singing reaches
Mysteriously through the soul's dim halls,
Troubles its sleep and teaches
By those pure calls
Dead love, forgotten sweetness, vanished pain,
To rise and hold my hands and clasp my arms ;
Till, freed from Time's indignities and harms,
My dearest steps again
From the grey porch, and we like gods great-
hearted,
Our love reborn and the life-long ache departed,
Pace with delight grass walks and sunny reaches,
Regrets and hopes laid-by, wrapt in sereneness
Breathed out from wide aisles of unfading beeches,
And the long lawn's greenness.

II

O holy trees,
Green homes of unperturbed tranquillities,
O beeches, thriving in a long content,
Let me behold you and in contemplation
Drain this refreshment sent

From your pure being, free from domination
Of angers, sorrows, and the long disease
Of hope, the long anxiety of love ;
So patiently receiving from above
Sunlight and rain and the changing ministration
Of circling years, and from the deep earth taking
Your needed food ; the servants of no strife
Nor laws of your own making,
But only that divine law which is Life.
Oh, out of your serene abundance give
To our blind poverty the gift that saves,
That we at length may live :
And afterwards draw beauty from our graves.