ROBERT HILLYER

POETRY

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Winning of the Pulitzer Prize for Poetry in 1934

Robert Hillyer was born in East Orange, New Jersey, in 1891. He was educated at Rye School and at Harvard, graduating cum laude in 1913. His first book, "Tales and Other Lyric", was published in that year. He then became a lieutenant in the American Expeditionary Force, returning to Harvard as an instructor in English in 1919. The year 1922 he spent at the University of Copenhagen, as a Fellow of the American Swedish Foundation.

Since his return he has been constantly a member of the Harvard faculty, now for ten years at Trinity College; he was appointed to the Beinecke chair in 1931. He is a former president of the New England Poetry Club, a member of the National Institute of Arts and Letters, and a Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. He has been a frequent contributor of poetry and essays to literary magazines, and has been Phi Beta Kappa poet at Yale, Harvard, and Williams and Mary. His published volumes now number sixteen, including besides essays and critical works, one novel and sixteen books of poetry. Of these, "Pattern of a Day" is not only the latest, but the most mature and the most completely satisfying.

Pattern of a Day

In none of Mr. Hillyer's books has there been such an expression of emotion and spiritual experience as in this. Remaining for the most part in the light of the light, these poems present a veritable experience and expression of a wide variety of thought and emotion. There is here no attempt to formulate or to have the reader interpret these emotions, but the reader may find here that which is his own. The craftsmanship of this work is not only a reflection of the artist's skill in the art of poetry, but an indication of the artist's grasp of life. The beauty of the form and the variety of its expression, this new book will perhaps be the most rewarding of all Mr. Hillyer's volumes.