

*Mosquito Coast, Lower
Amazon, July 31, 1924*

PREDATOR

Seeking

The forest run

The bleeding sun

The edge of breath

A birth in death

The temple

By the sea

Smelling

The storage bin

The smoke upwind

The plower's field

A buzzard's meal

The honied hive

And the bee

Seeing

The partridge, the hare

The fleeting stare

The beetle's dung

An owl's black tongue

The ape shape

In the tree

Hearing

The shuffle, the whine

The shattering vine

The fear in birds

A windless word
 The trapped man
 And the free

Touching
The water, the weed
The senseless deed
The naked brain
A being in pain
 The throbbing
 And the plea

Tasting
The marrow, the stone
The cracking bone
The rush of blood
A soul's dark flood
 The life-lock
 And the key

Finding
The silence, the mirrors
The blush of tears
The pulse of life
Ancestral strife
 The tooth god
 And the litany