

A Voice in the Crowd, poems by Kathryn H. Greenwood. Vega Press, 252 N. 16th St., Bloomfield, N.J. 07003. 28 pp. \$3.00. Order from Kathryn Greenwood, 111 Kings Road, Plymouth Meeting, PA 19462.

A Voice in the Crowd is Kathryn Greenwood's first chapbook of poetry, though she is widely published in the little magazines, and is well known for her readings in the Philadelphia area. Two of the poems in this book--"City Lover" and "Whitman Symposium"--first appeared in the *Mickle Street Review*.

In the keynote poem, "To My Old Friends, Dick and Jane," Ms. Greenwood declares her intention to write "the most delicious poems" that will produce tears of nostalgia and sadness, balanced with sensual good feeling. She will pursue this end, she tells us, while box office stars do what pays well and mass produced intellectuals and street poets feel sorry for themselves. She sees herself a little like Dorothy in the Wizard of Oz, bucking up the hearts and brains and courage of fellow poets who have been distracted from their craft by "thumps of bass and drum/ and illusionary flashes of strobe."

By and large, this ambitious aim is carried out through her collection of 23 poems. She does what she says she can do. Her poems are a mix of sentimentality, strength, cynicism with humor, conventionality, and just a touch of new wave modernity. The result is a pleasant collection which offers something for just about anyone who enjoys life and who likes to read.

--Susan Chromiak