
Contents

Preface to the Second Edition	xi
Introduction	xiii
Abbreviations	xvii
Note on Illustrations	xix
Color	xix
Black and White	xx
Key Terms	xxv

Illuminated Works	1
ALL RELIGIONS ARE ONE/THERE IS NO NATURAL RELIGION (1788)	3
All Religions Are One	5
There Is No Natural Religion	6
SONGS OF INNOCENCE AND OF EXPERIENCE (1789–94)	8
Songs of Innocence (1789)	11
Introduction	11
The Shepherd	13
The Ecchoing Green	13
The Lamb	15
The Little Black Boy	16
The Blossom	17
The Chimney Sweeper	18
The Little Boy Lost	18
The Little Boy Found	19
Laughing Song	19
A Cradle Song	20
The Divine Image	21
Holy Thursday	22
Night	23
Spring	24
Nurse's Song	25
Infant Joy	25
A Dream	26
On Anothers Sorrow	26
Songs of Experience (1793)	28
Introduction	28
Earth's Answer	30
The Clod & the Pebble	31
Holy Thursday	31
The Little Girl Lost	32
The Little Girl Found	33

The Chimney Sweeper	35
Nurses Song	36
The Sick Rose	36
The Fly	37
The Angel	38
The Tyger	38
My Pretty Rose Tree	39
Ah! Sun-Flower	39
The Lilly	40
The Garden of Love	40
The Little Vagabond	40
London	41
The Human Abstract	42
Infant Sorrow	43
A Poison Tree	43
A Little Boy Lost	44
A Little Girl Lost	44
To Tirzah	45
The School Boy	46
The Voice of the Ancient Bard	47
THE BOOK OF THEL (1789)	48
VISIONS OF THE DAUGHTERS OF ALBION (1793)	55
THE MARRIAGE OF HEAVEN AND HELL (1790)	66
AMERICA A PROPHECY (1793)	83
EUROPE A PROPHECY (1794)	96
THE SONG OF LOS (1795)	107
Africa	108
Asia	110
THE BOOK OF URIZEN (1794)	112
THE BOOK OF AHANIA (1794)	130
THE BOOK OF LOS (1795)	138
MILTON: A POEM (1804; c. 1810–18)	144
JERUSALEM THE EMANATION OF THE GIANT ALBION (1804; c. 1821)	205
FOR THE SEXES: THE GATES OF PARADISE (1820)	341
THE GHOST OF ABEL (1822)	344
ON HOMER'S POETRY/ON VIRGIL (1822)	347
YAH [YAH] & HIS TWO SONS SATAN & ADAM [THE LAOCOON] (1826)	349
Other Writings	353
FROM POETICAL SKETCHES (1783)	355
To Spring	355
To Summer	355
To Autumn	356
To Winter	356
To the Evening Star	357
Song ("How sweet I roam'd from field to field")	357
Song ("Love and harmony combine")	358
Mad Song	358
To the Muses	359
[AN ISLAND IN THE MOON] (1785)	360

TO THE PUBLIC [PROSPECTUS] (1793)	377
FROM THE NOTEBOOK (1787–1818)	379
London (drafts c. 1792)	379
The Tyger (drafts c. 1792)	380
Infant Sorrow (drafts, date uncertain)	381
Motto to the Songs of Innocence & of Experience	383
A cradle song	383
[“I heard an Angel singing”]	383
An ancient Proverb	384
[“Why should I care for the men of thames”]	384
How to know Love from Deceit	384
[“O lapwing thou fliest around the heath”]	384
[“Thou hast a lap full of seed”]	385
[“The sword sung on the barren heath”]	385
[“If you trap the moment before its ripe”]	385
Eternity	385
[“The Angel that presided oer my birth”]	385
Morning	385
[“Great things are done when Men & Mountains meet”]	386
An answer to the parson	386
To God	386
To Nobodaddy	386
[“Let the Brothels of Paris be opened”]	386
[“When Klopstock England defied”]	387
[“The Hebrew Nation did not write it”]	387
[“If it is True What the Prophets write”]	388
[“I saw a chapel all of gold”]	388
Merlins prophecy	388
Soft Snow	389
[“Abstinence sows sand all over”]	389
[“What is it men in women do require”]	389
[“In a wife I would desire”]	389
[“When a Man has Married a Wife he finds out whether”]	389
[“A Woman Scaly & a Man all Hairy”]	389
[“Her whole Life is an Epigram smack smooth & nobly pend”]	389
[“An old maid early eer I knew”]	389
The Fairy	390
[“Never pain to tell thy Love”]	390
[“I asked a thief to steal me a peach”]	390
[“My Spectre around me night & day”]	391
[Related stanzas]	392
[“You dont believe I wont attempt to make ye”]	392
[“Mock on Mock on Voltaire Rousseau”]	393
[“The only Man that eer I knew”]	393
[“The Caverns of the Grave Ive seen”]	393
Riches	394
[“Since all the Riches of this World”]	394
[“I rose up at the dawn of day”]	394
Blakes apology for his Catalogue	395
[THE “AUGURIES” (PICKERING) MANUSCRIPT] (c. 1805)	395
The Smile	395

The Golden Net	396
The Mental Traveller	397
The Land of Dreams	399
Mary	400
The Crystal Cabinet	401
The Grey Monk	402
Auguries of Innocence	403
Long John Brown & Little Mary Bell	405
William Bond	406
FROM VALA / THE FOUR ZOAS (c. 1797–1805)	407
FROM EXHIBITION OF PAINTINGS IN FRESCO [ADVERTISEMENT] (1809)	421
“In the last Battle that Arthur fought . . .”	421
The Invention of a portable Fresco	422
FROM A DESCRIPTIVE CATALOGUE OF PICTURES (1809)	423
FROM [A VISION OF THE LAST JUDGMENT] (1810)	432
FROM [A PUBLIC ADDRESS TO THE CHALCOGRAPHIC SOCIETY] (1809–10)	439
FROM [THE EVERLASTING GOSPEL] (c. 1818)	445
FROM THE MARGINALIA (1789–1827)	453
From On Lavater’s <i>Aphorisms on Man</i> (1788)	453
From On Swedenborg’s <i>Divine Love and Divine Wisdom</i> (1788; notes c. 1790)	455
From On Watson’s <i>An Apology for the Bible</i> (1797; notes 1798)	455
From On Bacon’s <i>Essays</i> (1798)	460
From On Boyd’s <i>Translation of the Inferno in English Verse</i> (1785; notes c. 1800)	460
From On Reynolds’s <i>Works</i> (1798; notes c. 1798–1809)	461
From On Spurzheim’s <i>Observations on Insanity</i> (1817)	466
From On Berkeley’s <i>Siris</i> (1744; notes c. 1820)	466
From On Wordsworth’s Preface to <i>The Excursion</i> (1814; notes 1826)	467
From On Wordsworth’s <i>Poems</i> (1815; notes 1826)	467
From On Thornton’s <i>The Lord’s Prayer, Newly Translated</i> (1827)	468
FROM THE LETTERS	470
To the Reverend Dr. John Trusler, August 23, 1799	470
To George Cumberland, July 2, 1800	471
To George Cumberland, September 1, 1800	472
To John Flaxman, September 12, 1800	473
To John Flaxman, September 21, 1800	474
To Thomas Butts, October 2, 1800	475
To Thomas Butts, November 22, 1802	476
To Thomas Butts, November 22, 1802 (second letter)	477
To Thomas Butts, January 10, 180[3]	479
To James Blake, January 30, 1803	481
To Thomas Butts, April 25, 1803	483
To Thomas Butts, July 6, 1803	484
To Thomas Butts, August 16, 1803	485
Blake’s Memorandum [August 1803]	487
To William Hayley, October 7, 1803	489
To William Hayley, October 23, 1804	489
To William Hayley, December 11, 1805	490

To Dawson Turner, June 9, 1818	491
To George Cumberland, April 12, 1827	492
Criticism	495
COMMENTS BY CONTEMPORARIES	497
Robert Hunt • <i>From Mr Blake's Exhibition</i> (1809)	497
Samuel Taylor Coleridge • <i>From Letter to Charles Augustus Tulk</i> [February 12, 1818]	498
John Thomas Smith • <i>From Nollekens and His Times</i> (1828)	500
Frederick Tatham • <i>From The Life of William Blake</i> (c. 1832; 1906)	504
Henry Crabb Robinson • <i>From Reminiscences</i> (1852; 1907)	510
Samuel Palmer • Letter to Alexander Gilchrist	514
TWENTIETH- AND TWENTY-FIRST-CENTURY PERSPECTIVES	519
Allen Ginsberg • [My Vision of Blake]	519
Northrop Frye • Blake's Treatment of the Archetype	524
W. J. T. Mitchell • Dangerous Blake	536
Joseph Viscomi • [Blake's Relief Etching Process: A Simplified Account]	541
Stephen C. Behrendt • [The "Third Text" of Blake's Illuminated Books]	547
Martin K. Nurmi • [On <i>The Marriage of Heaven and Hell</i>]	554
Alicia Ostriker • <i>From Desire Gratified and Ungratified:</i> <i>William Blake and Sexuality</i>	560
Nelson Hilton • <i>From Some Polysemous Words in Blake</i>	571
Jon Mee • <i>From Blake the Bricoleur</i>	574
Saree Makdisi • <i>From Fierce Rushing: William Blake and</i> <i>the Cultural Politics of Liberty in the 1790s</i>	576
Julia Wright • <i>From "How Different the World to Them":</i> <i>Revolutionary Heterogeneity and Alienation</i>	583
Morris Eaves • The Title-Page of <i>The Book of Urizen</i>	586
Harold Bloom • [On the Theodicy of Blake's <i>Milton</i>]	590
V. A. De Luca • <i>From A Wall of Words: The Sublime as Text</i>	591
TEXTUAL TECHNICALITIES	599
WILLIAM BLAKE'S LIFE AND TIMES: A CHRONOLOGY	603
SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY	611
SOURCES CITED IN EDITORIAL NOTES	617
INDEX OF TITLES AND FIRST LINES	621