

# Contents

Preface	1
<b>I Literature as Performance</b>	
1 The Orality of Literature	11
2 Community and Symbol	23
3 What is a Classic?	42
4 The Dynamics of Symbolism	58
5 Rituals and Readings	72
<b>II The Scandal of Vachel Lindsay</b>	
6 Introduction: The Reading Public <i>versus</i> the Audience	89
7 A Forgotten Poet	99
8 Lindsay and Midwestern Community	110
9 Vision: The Audience and the Poet	122
10 The Performances	139
11 Communal Composition	170
Conclusion	181
Bibliography	188
Index	197