Mourning doves coo
In branches above hens
Clucking as they peek grit.
The robin's song springs
Bold as thunder.
Mice scritch scratch in the grain.
Mewspaper pages rustle,
A slurp of coffee, then
The cup clinks
In the saucer.
The sporch glider

The screen door,
Wood-framed, bounces shut;
Rag rug for mud.
Outside,
Veiled in green buds.
Trumpet vine—
Brings hummingbirds.
Brings hummingbirds.
A spider, yellow-blackWhite, writes its web
On the grape arbor.
A calico apron hangs

In the kitchen window sit Mason jars of sage.
Coffee boils in a speckled pot, Sausage sizzles on the stovetop. Baking powder biscuits bake In the oven of the kerosene stove. Down in the musty basement Piles of dirty laundry—Oily overalls
Dingy boxer shorts
Sweat-stained undershirts.
From the wringer washer tub, From the wringer washer tub,

.III

A worn quilt, feather pillows Wet grass between bare toes Papery wasp nests abandoned The tiekle of a praying mantis' legs A raw potato against a wart—another Old-time temedy.

The pop of tipe gooseberries in the mouth Warmth under a hen's wing Warmth under a hen's wing

.ν

.VI

II.

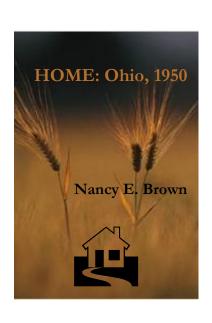
Please recycle to a friend.

WWW.ORIGAMIPOEMS.COM

origamipoems@gmail.com

Origani Posav Project ™

**HOME: Ohio, 1950** by Nancy E. Brown © 2009



I.

Cold well-water gulped from a gourd. A dose of brown sugar and turpentine - An old-time remedy
To keep away worms.
Cod liver oil from a cold metal spoon.
Buttermilk cornbread baked
In a cast-iron skillet.
Sun-warmed tomatoes and peppers,
White corn on the cob
Rolled in butter.
Pan fish fried on Fridays.