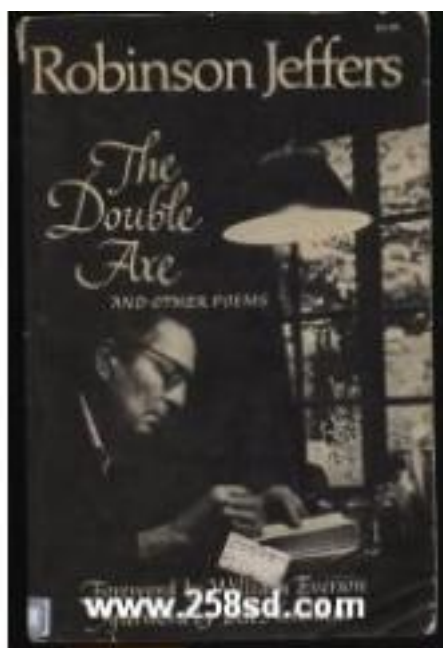


# Jeffers Double Axe Cloth



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PREFACE  
The first part of The Double Axe was written during the war and finished a year before the war ended. It bears the scars; but the poem is not primarily concerned with that grim folly. Its burden is as of some previous work of mine is to present a certain philosophical attitude which I have called Inhumanism; a shifting of emphasis and significance from man to not-man; the rejection of human solipsism and recognition of the transhuman magnitude. It seems to me that our race began to think as an adult does rather than like an egocentric baby or insane person. This manner of thought and feeling is neither inhuman nor pessimistic though two or three people have said so and may again. It involves no falsehoods and is a means of maintaining sanity in slippery times; it has objective truth and

human value. It offers a reasonable detachment as rule of conduct instead of love-hate and envy. It neutralizes fanaticism and wild hopes; but it provides magnificence for the religious instinct and satisfies our need to admire greatness and rejoice in beauty. The shorter poems that tail the book are expressions in their different ways of the same attitude. A few of them have been printed previously; three in Poetry Magazine; one in the University of Kansas City Review; two in The Saturday Review of Literature; several in some recent anthologies. As to the Publishers Note that introduces this volume let me say that it is here with my cheerful consent and represents a quite normal difference of opinion. But I believe

作者介绍:

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