

## Four Pictures Of The Spanish Civil War

(From photographs in Hugh Thomas' *The Spanish Civil War*)

### I

Franco's cheeks  
are smooth and full  
he's smiling like a politician.  
General Mola walks dimly  
one step behind,  
putting on white gloves.  
Mola will die soon  
in an airplane crash.  
Franco  
wears no gloves.

### II

**La Pasionaria**  
stands all in black,  
followed by grey reporters  
reaching to see  
over the heads in front of them.  
She is Spain's greatest Communist,  
so she waits  
with tight lips  
and impatient  
eyes  
while all the reporters are talking  
at once.

### III

The floor of a sacked church  
is scattered like a stoney beach  
with holy fragments,  
all the way  
up to where the altar was.  
Along the lower edge  
of the picture  
is a pile of broken Christs and saints:  
like victims of a shipwreck  
laid in a line  
until their relatives come  
and claim them.  
All the Christs are armless,  
one has no face.

#### IV

You have seen this picture:

he falls away  
from his gun, suspended  
sitting  
in mid air  
arms out spread.

Beneath him  
in the grass of a hillside  
is his last shadow,  
toward which he is falling.

-- James Hazard  
Whiting, Indiana

#### THE SHIELD

Far in the distance like a star some very little thing begins to dance. It is a crazy little thing. It makes legs for itself. It dances in the fire on a cold and windy night. There is a very short fat man coming up through the snow. He has a smile on his face. He is laughing because he is so happy. His arms bulge with muscles because above his head he carries a great load of treebranches. And then he disappears. He becomes nothing but a shield painted red white and blue.

-- Robert Lowry  
Cincinnati, Ohio

Robert Lowry's new book, *Party of Dreamers*, has been released by Fleet Publishing Corp. on Nov. 22, 1962. A book of short stories: \$4.50.