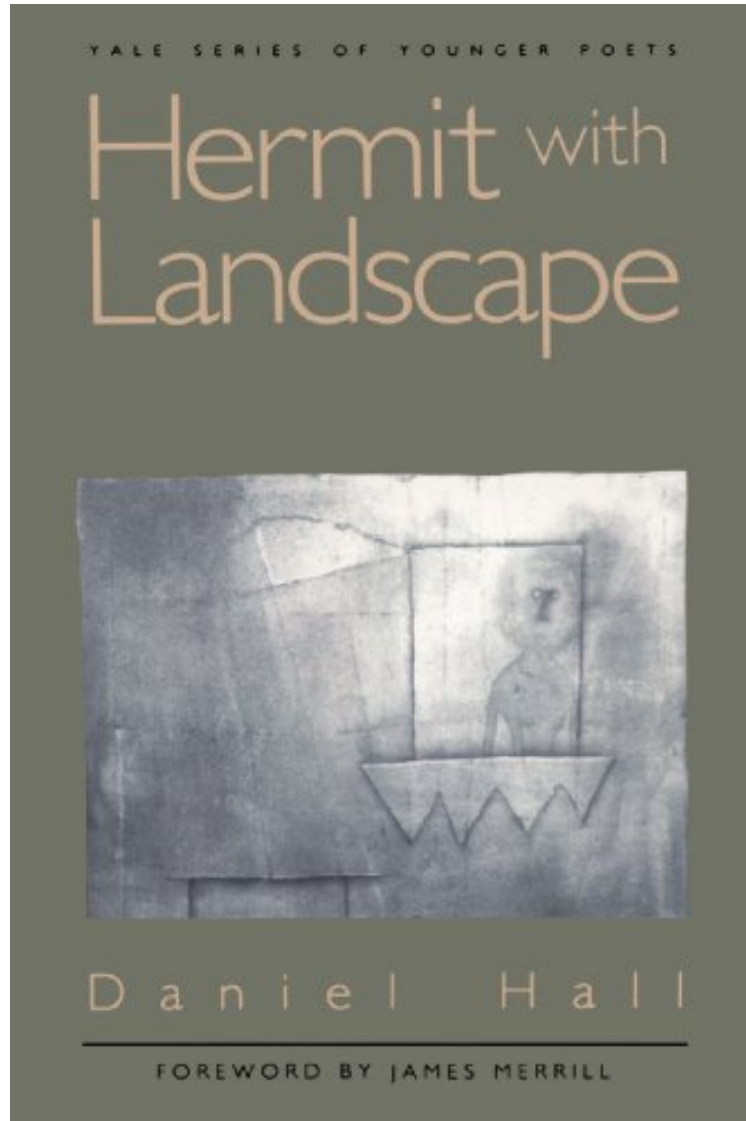


[E-BOOK] Hermit with Landscape (Yale Series of Younger Poets)

Hermit with Landscape (Yale Series of Younger Poets)

Daniel Hall

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Daniel Hall : Hermit with Landscape (Yale Series of Younger Poets) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Hermit with Landscape (Yale Series of Younger Poets):

The winning volume in the 1989 Yale Series of Younger Poets competition is Hermit with Landscape by Daniel Hall. As James Merrill, distinguished poet and judge of the competition, has said: "Daniel Hall is a patient craftsman, a

weigher of each word. Smaller and more lucid than their model, his imitations of life place no burden upon us; rather, their deftness lightens our step. Here mind once again outdances the monumental."

From Publishers Weekly Like the fading touch-me-nots a friend is here described nurturing, these intricate meditative poems are "mementos of the time / and pains taken to get things down / before they go ." Hall's first collection, selected by Merrill for the 1989 Yale Series of Younger Poets prize, constellates around timebound gestures of reconciliation and resignation, its line of vision always seeming to refract through the convexities of the hourglass. The craftsmanship is consistently adroit and admirably low-key: Hall knows the virtues of the half-rhyme and the well-tempered stanza. But he can also be fastidious to the point of fussiness, needlessly cryptic and too readily lulled by easy abstractions and souped-up truisms. Dividing their loyalties between the urge to "travel / light and live, upon arrival / lighter still" and the impulse to "find some solace" in "small things . . . / familiarities," these poems often settle for a safe perch on the fence or in the middle of the road. Copyright 1990 Reed Business Information, Inc. From Library Journal Winner of the 1989 Yale Younger Poets competition, Hall here treads on thin ice. His poems belong to the minimalist, descriptive, workshop tradition so much in vogue in the 1980s and best expressed in the pages of the American Poetry . No need to belabor the negative qualities of that "school," which insists on describing emotional events in a prose scattered on the page to look like "poetry." Most of this book is just that, with an attendant lack of feeling for real literary tradition(s). But this work does occasionally rise above such limitations. In the absurdly titled "Sneeze on High," Hall's language attains a symbolist level: "Sandgold, rocksmear./ In the shallows minnow mimicked/ and inverted silver/sky and dusky." One always wonders, however, what intuition prompts the arbitrary line breaks.- Ivan Arguelles, Univ. of California at Berkeley Lib. Copyright 1990 Reed Business Information, Inc. 13th Aloha Andrew's Jewelweed Another Round Cacomixl California Country Radio Dusting From Cuttle Island Hardy's Shelley's Skylark Hermit With Landscape In The Valley Of The Fort River Incident At The Lotus Pool Long Love-letter-burning Moving Day Narcissus In Connecticut Night Call Oblique Passage October: November The Penumbra The People's Hotel Poem Prospect Park Rainy Season Satie In Utah Short Circuit A Sneeze On High Tidal Twin Elegies -- Table of Poems from Poem Finder