CONTENTS

Foreword by James Engell • ix
Preface • xii

Mary Had a Little Lamb • 1
Mother Goose
The Silly Lambe • 3
Edmund Spenser
Sonnet 155 • 5
William Shakespeare
Temper Rising • 6
John Donne
Academia Lost • 8
John Milton
The School Steps • 10
George Herbert
To Mary, To Get Out on Time • 11
Robert Herrick
Annus Horribilis • 12
John Dryden
An Essay on Lambs • 15
Alexander Pope
The Vanity of Ovine Hubris • 17
Samuel Johnson
The Book of Hell • 19
William Blake
Expulsion and Result · 20
William Wordsworth

The Crime of the Urchin Mary · 22
Samuel Taylor Coleridge

Why do I hate this horrid place · 26
Emily Brontë

The Revolt of a Lamb · 27
Percy Bysshe Shelley

Ode to Cologne · 29
John Keats

My Man, Fred · 31
George Gordon, Lord Byron

The Clover-Eater · 34
Alfred, Lord Tennyson

Friedrich Schlafbewirken’s Excogitation · 36
Robert Browning

The Deserted Lamb · 38
Matthew Arnold

Mistress Mary · 40
Dante Gabriel Rossetti

Hymn to the Lamb · 42
Algernon Charles Swinburne

A Shropshire Lamb · 44
A. E. Housman

The Lambkin: To Lady Mary · 45
Gerard Manley Hopkins

Lamby · 47
Rudyard Kipling
At School · 48

Thomas Hardy

Loco Lamb and the Schoolman · 49

William Butler Yeats

Lamb · 50

D. H. Lawrence

Little Gaffer · 52

T. S. Eliot

A Refusal to Bleat and Moan about Being Expelled from School · 54

Dylan Thomas

The Anxiety of Age · 55

W. H. Auden

School Going · 58

Philip Larkin

Second Thoughts about Mary · 60

Stevie Smith

Author’s Note · 63

Acknowledgments · 64