



## MIDGE & BUDGE 1948 (TWO PHOTOGRAPHS)

BY E. O'RILEY

She stands proud, a fist on her hip,  
lanky limbs and rosy lush lips.  
Leather chaps drape down her lean legs  
stiffly, as if moulded copper.  
A rifle rests on her shoulder.  
Sunshine lifts the brim of her hat  
and rests like a lover's hand  
upon her cheek—plumped up by youth  
and fiery adoration.

He stands like a nervous child,  
timid, tips of his toes, exposed  
the soles of his feet facing up.  
Chaps dangle like a bell, his legs  
becoming its muted clapper.  
A sly smile punctuated  
by parenthesis, cast in shade.  
Beached wood arms, his thick-fingered hands  
gently hold a small flowered glass.



# Shipwrights

The Review of De-Centered English

Newlyweds in their wedded bliss  
take photographs of each other—  
short shadowed by the desert sun.  
Each taking a turn to capture  
light reflected from the other—  
causing miniscule grains to spill  
into chemical suspension  
absorbing, for me, their rapture.

***E. O'RILEY** is a native English speaker who holds the passports of two countries, a white belt in taekwondo, and a grudge against Leonardo DiCaprio. She is currently procrastinating.*