

Vladimir Nabokov: A Descriptive Bibliography, Revised

Альманахъ: Два пути

A3

The dozen poems by Nabokov included in *Альманахъ: Два пути* [*Al'manakh": Dva puti/Almanac: Two paths*] were composed between May and August 1917 (*VNTRY* 131). The little self-published volume, with eight poems by Andrei Balashov, a Tenishev schoolmate, was printed in January the next year (according to Nabokov in *Poems and Problems* 19, 218) during the chaos of the Russian revolutions. (Also see *VNTRY* 131 and *VB* 45–46.)

The first edition is the rarest of Nabokov books: Possibly three have survived.

Edition Summary

A3.1 Альманахъ: Два пути FIRST EDITION ([SELF-PUBLISHED]), Jan-1918, 1 issue

A3.2 Альманахъ: Два пути NEW EDITION (ZVEREV CENTER OF CONTEMPORARY ART), 2003, 1 issue

Vladimir Nabokov: A Descriptive Bibliography, Revised

Альманахъ: Два пути

A3.1 FIRST EDITION ([SELF-PUBLISHED])

¶ First printing, Jan-1918



A3.1 First printing, 1918, title page

Collation: (17.8 X 12.4 cm (rebound)), at least 26 pages

Title page: АНДРЕЙ БАЛАШОВЪ и В. В. НАБОКОВЪ. | \double rule\ | АЛЬМАНАХЪ | ДВА ПУТИ. | \short rule\ | СТИХИ. | \short rule, 2 small boxes, short rule\ | ПЕТРОГРАДЪ. | Типо-Литографія Инж. М. С. Персона, Казанская 35. | 1918 [Andreï Balashov" i V. V. Nabokov" | Al'manakh" | Dva puti | Stikhi | Petrograd" | Tipo-Litografiia Inzh. M. S. Persona, Kazanskaia 35 | 1918 / Andrey Balashov and V.V. Nabokov | Almanac | Two Paths | Poems | Petrograd | Type-Lithographic Eng. M.S. Person, Kazanskaia 35 | 1918]

Binding: Light brown or off-white wrappers

Contents: [1] title page, [2] blank, 3–19 poems by Balashov, 20–25 poems by Nabokov, [26] poem by Nabokov

Press run: 500 copies

Description: The back cover of the 2003 semi-facsimile reprinting claims that 500 copies of this original edition were issued, but that only three have survived (one at the Cornell University Library, one in private hands in St. Petersburg and possibly one in a library in Tver). The copy held by Cornell had belonged to Nabokov. He had it rebound in 1969 with a copy of *Горній нуть* [*Gornii put'*/*The empyrean path*]. In the process, it lost its cover. Other institutional holdings of the book are photocopies of this copy.

Additional Works: Eight poems by Andrei Balashov.

Works:

- 1) “Темно-синія обой” [“Temno-siniia oboi” / “The dark-blue wallpaper”]
- 2) “Плывутъ поля, болота мимо” [“Plyvut polia, bolota mimo” / “The fields float by, the marshes pass”]
- 3) Сонетъ. “Вернулся я къ моей любви забытой” [Sonet". “Vernulsia ia k" moei liubvi zabytoi” / Sonnet. “I have returned to my forgotten love”]
- 4) “Дождь пролетѣлъ и сгорѣлъ на лету” [“Dozhd' proletel' i sgorel" na letu” / “The rain has flown by and burnt out in its flight”]
– Set to music by Vladimir Ivanovich Pohl at Yalta in early 1919.
- 5) “Мятежными люблюсь облаками,” [“Miatezhnymi liubuias' oblakami,” / “Admiring the tumultuous clouds,”]
- 6) “Гроза растаяла. Небо ясно” [“Groza rastaiala. Nebo iasno” / “Dissolved is the thunderstorm, clear the sky”]
- 7) “Съ дождемъ и вѣтромъ боряця березы” [“S" dozhdem" i vĕtrom" boriatsia berezy” / “With rain and wind the birches wrestle”]
- 8) Осень. “Была въ тотъ день свѣтлѣй и шире даль” [Osen'. “Byla v" tot" den' svĕtlĕi i shire dal” / Autumn. “The distance was that day deeper and lighter”]
- 9) Сонетъ. “Безоблачная высь и тишина” [Sonet". “Bezoblachnaia vys' i tishina” / Sonnet. “A cloudless firmament, and not a sound”]
- 10) “Я незнакомые люблю вокзалы,” [“Ja neznakomye liubliu voksalы,” / “I’m fond of unfamiliar railroad stations,”]
- 11) “Вѣчный ужасъ. Черныя трясины” [“Vĕchnyi uzhas". Chernyia triasiny” / “Everlasting terror. The black quagmires”]
- 12) “У мудрыхъ и злыхъ ничего не прошу;” [“U mudrykh" i zlykh" nichego ne proshu;” / “From the wise and the wicked there’s nothing I want;”]

A3.2 NEW EDITION (ZVEREV CENTER OF CONTEMPORARY ART)



A3.2 First printing, 2003, cover, front



A3.2 First printing, 2003, title page



A3.2 First printing, 2003, copyright page

¶ First printing, 2003

As first edition, excerpt

Collation: (17.9 X 12.4 cm), 28 pages

Title page: АНДРЕЙ БАЛАШОВЪ и В. В. НАБОКОВЪ | \double rule\ | АЛЬМАНАХЪ | ДВА ПУТИ | \short rule\ | СТИХИ | \short rule\ | МОСКВА • САНКТ-ПЕТЕРБУРГ | 2003 [Andreï Balashov" i V. V. Nabokov" | Al'manakh" | Dva puti | Stikhi | Moskva • Sankt-Peterburg | 2003 / Andrey Balashov and V.V. Nabokov | Almanac | Two Paths | Poems | Moscow • St. Petersburg | 2003]

Copyright page: Наша благодарность за помощь и поддержку настоящего издания: | сотрудникам Библиотеки Университета Остин (США, штат Техас) | Катарине Смит и Молли Виллер. | профессору Дональду Бартону Джонсону, | преподавателю русской литературы Марине Минской, | Светлане Адамовой-Зассман (все -- США); | Наталии Ибановые Артеменко-Толстой, | Александру Ласкину, | Вадиму Старку (все Санкт-Петербург, Россия) | Настоящее издание осуществлено при поддержке | Зверевского центра современного искусства | Балашов А., Набоков В. В. | Два пути: Альманах. -- М.; СПб., 2003. -- 28 с. | ... | © The Estate of Vladimir Nabokov, 2003 | © Зверевский центр современного искусства, 2003 | © И.

Белодубровский, подготовка, 2003 [Our gratitude for the assistance and support for this edition: | employees of the University Library Austin (USA, Texas) | Catherine Smit and Molly Wheeler, | professor Donald Barton Johnson, | teacher of Russian literature Marina Minsk, Svetlana Adam-Zassman (all - USA); | Natalia Ibanovye Artemenko, Tolstoy, | Alexander Laskin, | Vadim Stark (all of St. Petersburg, Russia) | This edition had the support of | the Zverev Center of Contemporary Art | Balashov A., Nabokov V. V. | Two paths: Almanac. - Moscow, St. Petersburg., 2003. - 28 p. | ... | © The Estate of Vladimir Nabokov, 2003 | © Zverev Center of Contemporary Art, 2003 | © I. Belodubrovsky, preparation, 2003]

Binding: Saddle-stitched pamphlet. **Front cover:** АНДРЕЙ БАЛАШОВЪ и В. В. НАБОКОВЪ | \double rule\ | АЛЬМАНАХЪ | ДВА ПУТИ. | \short rule\ | СТИХИ. | \short rule, 2 small boxes, short rule\ | ПЕТРОГРАДЪ | Типо-Литографія Инж. М. С. Персона, Казанская 35. | 1918. **Back cover:** \information in Russian\

Contents: [1] title page, [2] copyright page, 3–19 poems by Balashov, 20–26 poems by Nabokov, [27] continuation of poem by Nabokov, [28] index

Description: This 2003 edition is a re-typeset semi-facsimile of the original 1918 edition. The typefaces of the new edition are similar to the original's typefaces but the layout and therefore the pagination are different. The text of the new edition ends on p. 27 and a table of contents is on p. 28. In the 1918 edition, the text ends on p. 26. In 1969, Nabokov had his copy of the 1918 edition that I examined (Cornell University Library) rebound with the 1923 *Gornii put'* [*Gornii put'*/*The empyrean path*]. In the process the covers and the final two pages were lost. So it is not known if it had a table of contents.

The back cover contains additional information. It claims that 500 copies of the original edition were issued, but that only three have survived.