

NOTE ON SELECTION AND ARRANGEMENT

THIS BOOK IS NOT A COMPREHENSIVE OR REPRESENTATIVE selection of the poetry of Avrom Sutzkever. I included here only those poems of his that, over my years of reading him, have said translate me. Thus, this is not a “Selected Poems,” but a gathering of Sutzkever’s work, from the first to the last volume, that I have needed to get into the language in which I write my own poems.

The earliest poems follow the ordering in *Collected Poems* (*Poetishe verk*), a two-volume edition published in 1963; the rest follow the orderings in the volumes from which they are taken.

When a date or a place name appears at the bottom of a poem it was put there by Sutzkever. The dates sectioning the poems in *Twin Brother* follow Sutzkever’s own arrangement, in conformation to the book’s subtitle, *Poems from a Diary*. When Sutzkever did not title a poem or if the poem is excerpted from a longer work, I supply a title from the first line of the poem for the table of contents.

