A GREAT PLAINS POTPOURRI

POEMS

by

Michael L. Johnson

Frank James

Jesse gone with a shot
from behind, Youngers jailed
at last, he got himself
off—even after he’d
ridden with Quantrill’s goons—
And opened up his house
to tourists, took them through
for half a dollar, then
died at seventy-two
peaceful as any man.

Michael L. Johnson is professor and chair of the English Department at the University of Kansas, Lawrence. He holds a B.A. in English from Rice University, an M.A. from Stanford University, and a Ph.D. from Rice University. In addition to writing poetry, he is also the author of the just published NewWesters: The West in Contemporary American Culture, a survey of Western music, dance, literature, and art in American culture.