

AGAINST THE
AMERICAN DREAM

**ESSAYS ON
CHARLES
BUKOWSKI**

**RUSSELL
HARRISON**

BLACK SPARROW PRESS SANTA ROSA 1995

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction	11
Abbreviations Used in the Text	23

THE POETRY

Poetry and Class	29
The Individual and the Social in Bukowski's Poetry of the '80s	47
Poetry and the Working Class	69
Metonymy	95
Excursus: Brecht	115

THE FICTION

Work, Refusal of Work and the Job in <i>Post Office</i> and <i>Factotum</i>	123
Excursus: Miller	153
Politics, Class and the Plebeian Tradition	159
Sex, Women and Irony	183
Connections: Fante—Hamsun—Mahler	217
Excursus: Gleason	243
The Fascination of the (Extra)Ordinary: The Short Stories of Charles Bukowski	249
Notes	281
Works Cited	309
Index to the Text	319