Eventyr (1992)

Appendix

In the 'The woods' section 8 variables are operated with– the word classes: nouns, verbs, adjectives, pronouns, prepositions, conjunctions, adverbs and proper names. The numerical values of the 8 variables are determined by the first poem in the collection, which thus assumes the nature of an axiom. The values of the variables are as follows – for nouns: 12; for verbs: 8; for adjectives: 3; for pronouns: 4; for prepositions: 7; for conjunctions: 4; for adverbs: 3; and for proper names: 1. Permitted deviations from these values are ± 1.

The 8 variables do not all function in all the poems at the same time, but anything from one variable to 8 in a poem, in such a way that all the possible combinations are tried out.

According to the combination formula for a set n and a subset p which is: FORMULA

there are for a set of 8, when subsets of 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 are extracted, 255 different subsets (here the number of the poems) + the first poem.

The section 'The woods' thus begins with the axiom = 1 poem, followed by 8 poems where only one variable is fixed (all combinations are tried out) while 7 are free; then come 28 poems where two variables are fixed (all combinations are tried out) while 6 are free; then 56 poems where three variables are fixed (all combinations are tried out) while 5 are free; then 70 poems where 4 variables are fixed (all combinations are tried out) while 4 are free; then 56 where 5 variables are fixed (all combinations are tried out) while 3 are free; then 28 poems where 6 variables are fixed (all combinations are tried out) while two are free; then 8 poems where 7 variables are fixed (all combinations are tried out) while 1 is free, then 1 poem where all 8 variables are fixed. Total = 256 poems.

In the section 'The skies' the same 8 variables are operated with as in 'The woods'. The numerical values of the 8 variables are determined by the first poem in the collection, which thus assumes the nature of an axiom. The values of the variables are as follows – for nouns: 9; for verbs: 6; for adjectives: 4; for pronouns: 3; for prepositions: 4; for conjunctions: 7; for adverbs: 1; and for proper names: 1. Permitted deviations from these values are ± 1. The combinations of the 8 variables function as in 'The woods', using the same combination formula. Unlike 'The woods', the number of variables functioning at the same time in each poem is random. The graphic form of the poems indicates how many variables are fixed and how many are free.

(Compare with the graphic form of 'The Woods'.) The number of poems is as in 'The woods' determined as 256 derived from the combination formula.

In the section 'The shores' the same 8 variables are operated with as in 'The woods' and 'The skies'. The numerical values of the 8 variables are determined by the first poem in the collection, which thus assumes the nature of an axiom. The values of the variables are as follows – for nouns: 8; for verbs: 5; for

adjectives: 6; for pronouns: 3; for prepositions: 4; for conjunctions: 7; for adverbs: 1; and for proper names: 1. Permitted deviations from these values are ± 1.

The section 'The shores begins with the axiom = 1 poem, followed by 8 poems where 7 variables are fixed while only 1 is free; then come 28 poems where 6 variables are fixed while 2 are free; then 56 poems where 5 variables are fixed while 3 are free; then 70 poems where 4 variables are fixed while 4 are free; then 56 where 3 variables are fixed while 5 are free; then 28 poems where 2 variables are fixed while 6 are free; then 8 poems where 1 variable is fixed while 7 are free, then 1 poem where all 8 variables are free. Total = 256 poems. As can be seen, structurally 'The shores' is a reversal of the section 'The woods'.

The movement in the section 'The woods' is from freedom of choice to an increasingly rigorous determination that finally only leaves one possibility remaining, while the movement in the section 'The skies' is characterised by randomness, and the movement in the section 'The shores' goes from determination towards absolute freedom of choice, structurally speaking.

Written August 1988 to December 1989.