

KEARSNEY

This is seeing: white swans on water,
A woman in white dress waiting
Indeterminate shapes they make
And reflections light across the ripples shake
B here in the moment as time
Stretches towards you.

A dog swims across the pond
Then hesitates as swans line up
Inflating their feathers
At the intruder.
C how they run;
Children quick to kick a ball,
To cross a stream, to climb a tree;
It must be done now –

There is a picture here
Of which you are part:
This afternoon in August,
In Kearnsey Abbey park,
This day is dear, no doubt about it.

Robert Marsh