

Neil Gunn Writing Competition 2016/17: Adult Poetry section

Third prize: Back Door by Ian McDonough

Back Door

Moonlight splashing
on the washing.

Amorous shadows
play on muted grey-blue hills.

Air hovers
over grass, over stone.

Silence clams the river.

No-one is at home tonight
but the kettle is singing.

In a cupboard drawer
three mice are dancing.

Next year is a far-flung land,
grass higher than houses.

Fireflies signal tree to tree;
Come quickly, war is over.