

see dimly with the mystics that 'All things shall be well, and all manner of thing shall be well.'

Meanwhile Mrs Knight has destroyed one obstacle to the contemplation of the mysteries of God. To have repudiated and smashed the idol is an achievement, and it is a religious achievement, one which she shares with the saint whom she quotes. I would not be surprised to learn that she shares a great deal more than this with St Augustine, who cared for nothing but truth and who also began with an intense awareness of suffering and evil in the world.

TRY TO SAY WHAT HAPPENED IN YOUR OWN WORDS

The disappearance of time at the needle's point.
The intercalation of roses and laughter.

Summer was a voyage to find
Among the sun-enamelled pools
The cool heart of the afternoon.

At last we came upon its profound mystery,
Bathed in the silence of pomegranates,
Nestling with wings folded
In the angle of a sun-blind.

To become aware again of the moving seasons,
Between the lull of autumn and the crush of winter,
Was a grief like old letters or polished stones;
It was to feel
The tooth of winter in the flesh of spring.

ROGER SHARROCK