

summer

there was a boy
in her village
who shot himself
in the head
in his father's shed

same summer
she took
a girl's face
in her hands
and kissed her
after gym class
lips tasted sweat
mum made her
wear a dress
to a wedding
a breathe in
only dress
she heard dad
say to mum
face wine red

*It was
a good wedding—
nice chaps,
no queers.*

there was a boy
in her village
who shot himself
in the head
in his father's shed
lips tasted sweat

*Nice chaps,
no queers.*

they said

*It was
a lovely summer,
though very hot
that year.*