

2017

Comeback with Swans

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Recommended Citation

Grennan, Eamon (2017) "Comeback with Swans," *Birmingham Poetry Review*. Vol. 44, Article 54.
Available at: <https://digitalcommons.library.uab.edu/bpr/vol44/iss2017/54>

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Comeback with Swans

At this distance their whiteness
disappears into the platinum dazzle
off lake water they've fashioned
for years their life on, finding its

silence (I suppose)—broken only
by wind among the reeds or the
mourning cry any summer evening
of a solitary sandpiper or in winter
by the keening lamentations the sheep
send down from Tully Mountain—

the right sphere for their families
and passions to thrive in (their
decent storm-defying hungers
and their mute mutual enduring
attention) so even at this distance

they are a comfort whenever
I get back, and their kind of
abiding says something I can trust:
they're here I'm back it's enough.