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## Corn Worms

This scarecrow Christ  
who hangs to rags forgotten  
in the corn — his silken  
hair blows over all our fields  
like rain.

Kelley White



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## Duty

What hides inside your grandmother's hollow  
tree? What's sewn in the lining  
of her coat? What does she keep folded  
with her fresh handkerchiefs?  
What does she cook for herself? What song  
did she sing on the day she was wed? Who shook  
at the back of the church? What is the name  
of the child no one says? And who lied about  
the birth? What did she write at the end  
of the book? What knot did she cut from  
your hair? Who is the face in the frame  
on her desk? Why does she keep a cracked bowl?

Kelley White

Kelley White has been an inner-city pediatrician for more than twenty years.