

Sarah-Jane Crowson

Dowsing Photographs: House

Unloved corners of houses hold secrets.
Mark how this wood is weathered;
once a masthead, it stood taller
than a pine tree in a slantwise skew
of blue. Then rain across gutters, water pours
past corners, wearing back
to a bark-blind softness.

There is a maker's mark.
It is hidden between age rings that tell
of trees that stretched out in the deep
wood, covered with curled insects - a flicker
of wings in sunshine
seen through leaves. Look
further, a thousand tiny wormholes;
'it's rotten, this wood'

Sarah-Jane Crowson works in a small, specialist arts college in Herefordshire, UK. She works as a teacher, manager and storyteller. Her doctoral research considers ideas of the 'critical radical rural'. Her approach to all of these things is non-heirarchical, and she enjoys facilitating unplanned, open educational spaces where anything can happen. Creative writing is, of course, a part of this.