

THE LAW OF EARS AND ALSO THINGS CLOSE

MTC CRONIN[†]

“If sound waves carry on to infinity,
where are their screams now?”¹

sound as close as my ears
and upon the side of the green hill
a lace of seagulls
unravelling its own pattern
and then no birds
just shadows of birds

small thoughts
black thoughts
that woman and her child
will die in the next war
a new law
means we take it seriously

and they still die. . .
and of luck?
the black sky laughs
and asks what possible exceptions
could you have to the moon?
right and wrong

behind the veil of the sky
listening to the argument
of six moral philosophers
standing on a pin
and my sound-filled body
is the point of access

falling it rings out
heavy as a rock
in this avalanche
as before the cliffs
black foam rises uncertainly
towards the dust in my head

[†] MTC Cronin is a poet from Australia. She has published two books of poetry in Australia and one book of poetry in the United States.

1. ANNE MICHAELS, *FUGITIVE PIECES* (1997).

