WHO TO BE PRETTY FOR

Jessie C. Grearson

The toaster's just another mirror

What comes over me shining everything up things bend and warp in it somedays

over its silver body the cloud people go slowly into that four o'clock stillness

to whom do I report for whom am I radiant placing everywhere my still young face

practicing—what? who told you to do that taught you these things

avoiding mirrors, I see them everywhere I breathe on every one I see

hand pat the dim place clear prints like birds' wings stunned against the glass