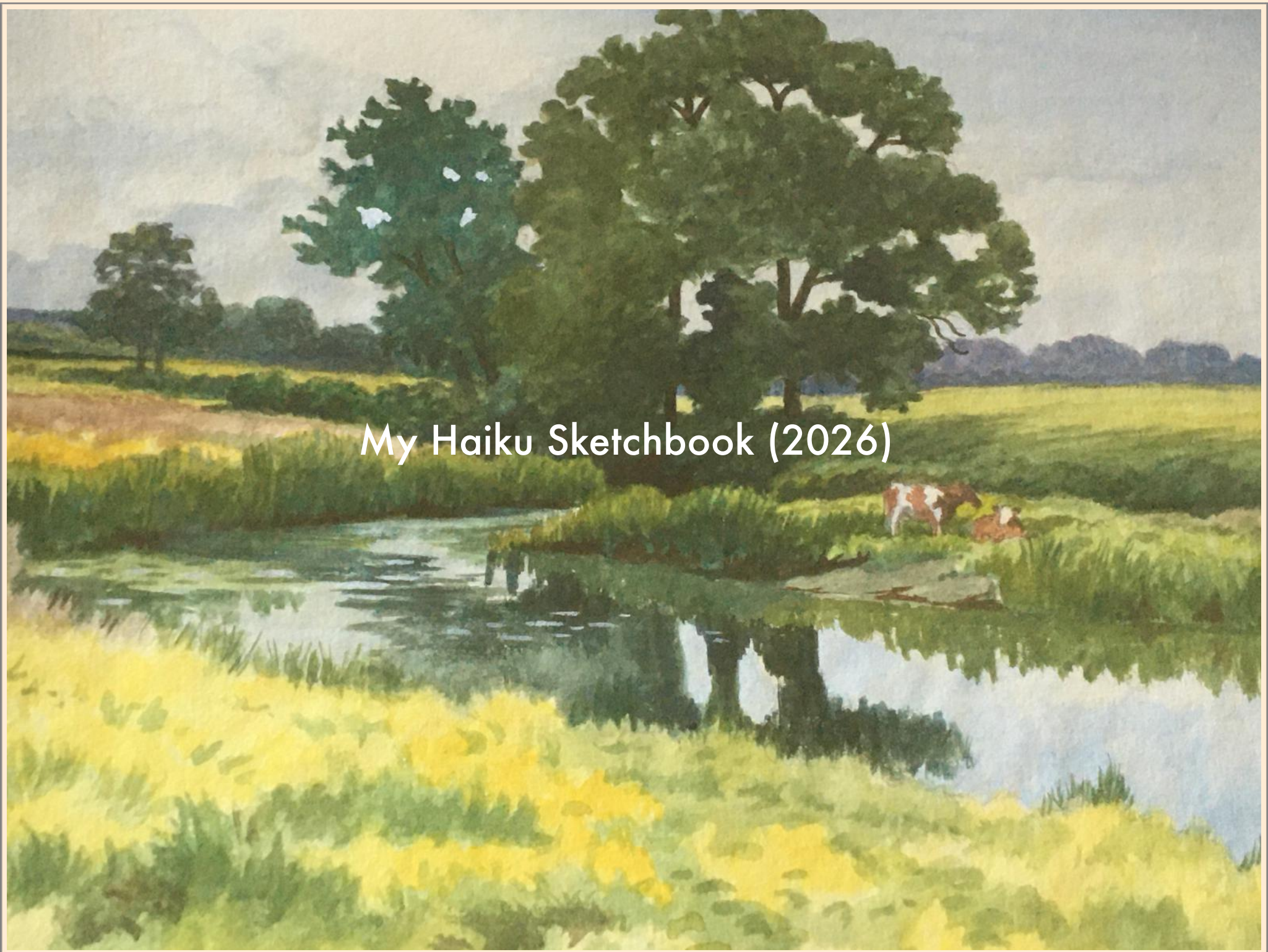




My Haiku Sketchbook (2026)

Welcome to my new (2026) online poetry notebook - it's a working notebook so the poems may be revised and edited over time. Thanks to the editors and publishers of the following journals who continue to publish and support my finished work ...

Wales Haiku Journal

hedgerow: a journal of small poems

The Pan Haiku Review/Blōō Outlier Journal

failed haiku – a journal of English Senryu

Presence Haiku Journal

first frost – journal of haiku & senryu

tsuri-dōrō – a small journal of haiku, senryū

Scarlet Dragonfly Journal

民句 folk ku: a journal in honour of Masaoka Shiki

Poetry Pea Journal and Podcast

The Wee Sparrow Poetry Press

My poems have been variously described as 'transcendental' – 'inspiring, interesting, and brilliantly written.' Like 'love letters to nature' – 'conjuring many layers of loveliness, with the lightness of gently falling leaves'. Such beautiful words to treasure. Thank you!

They are also mostly about birds.

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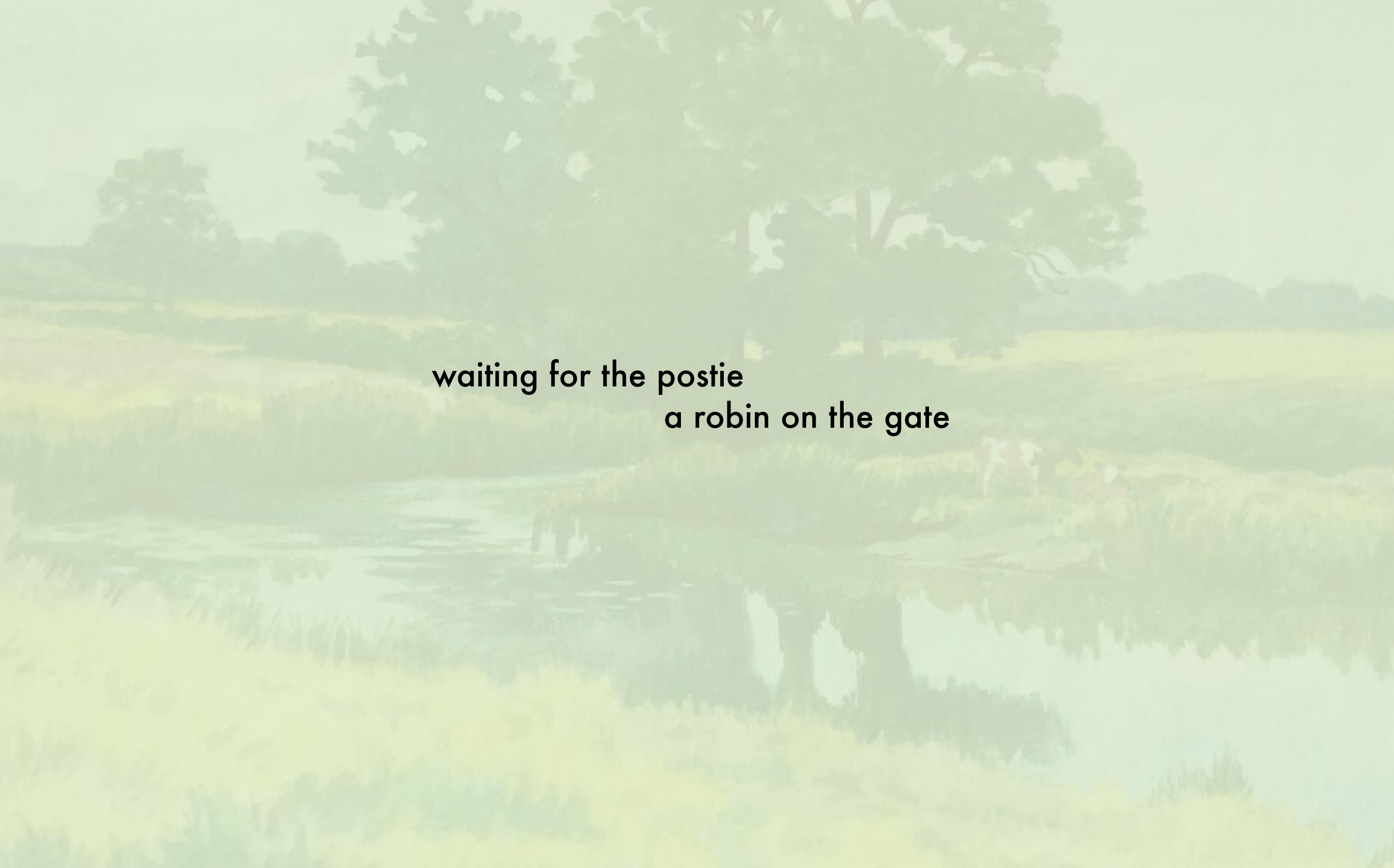
across the meadow



gorse blossom scents the lane a linnet's song



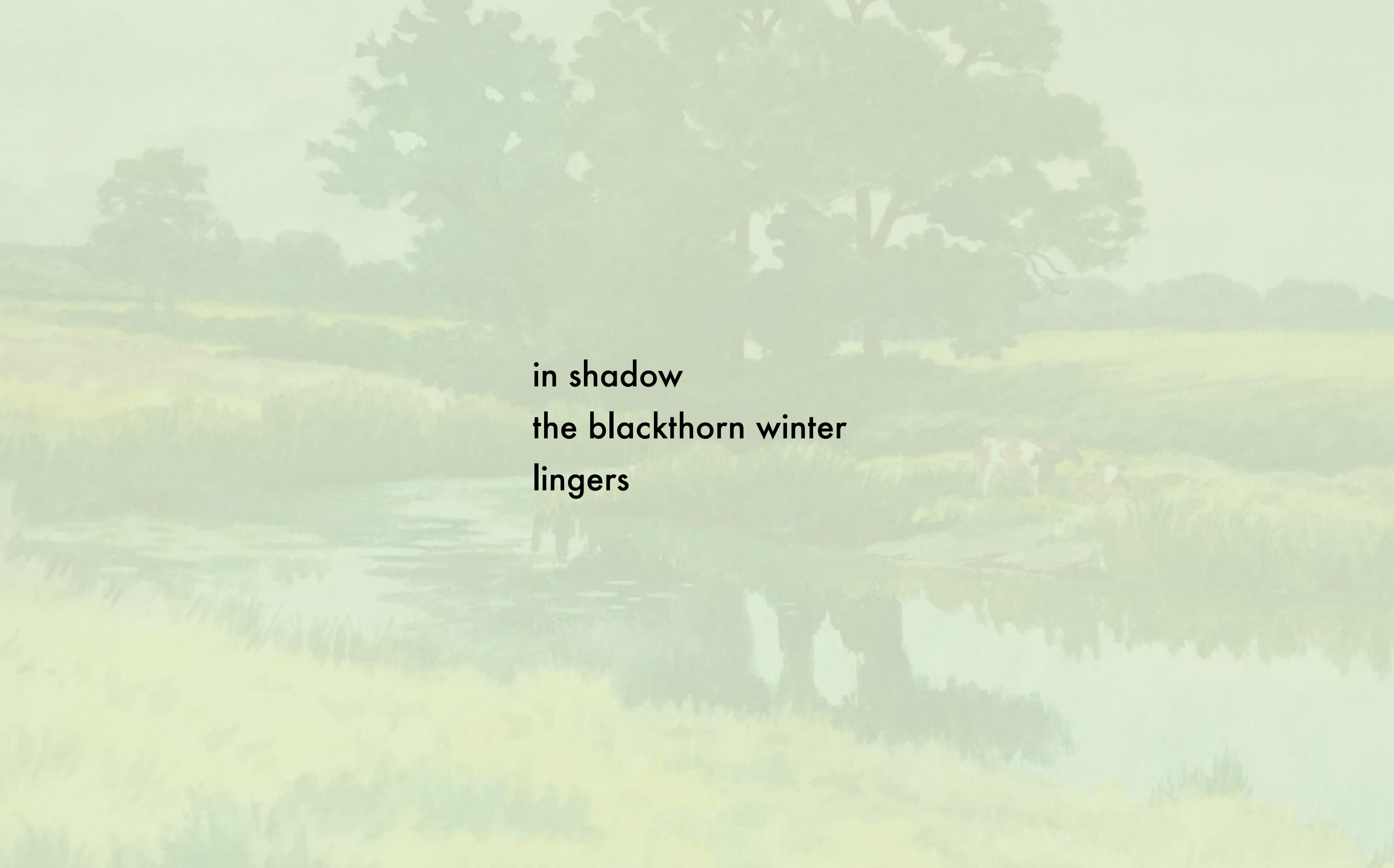
around every corner blackbirds



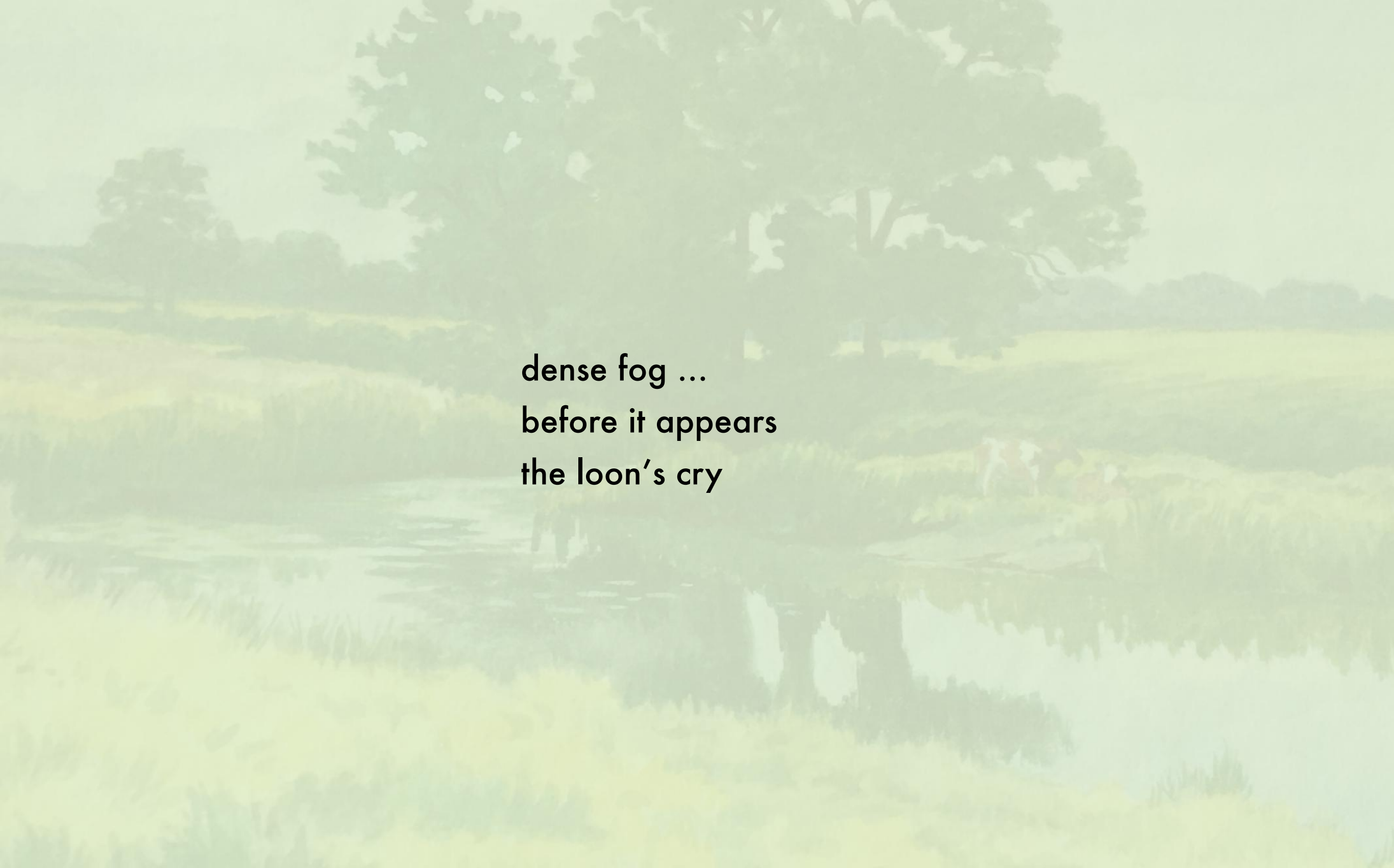
waiting for the postie
a robin on the gate



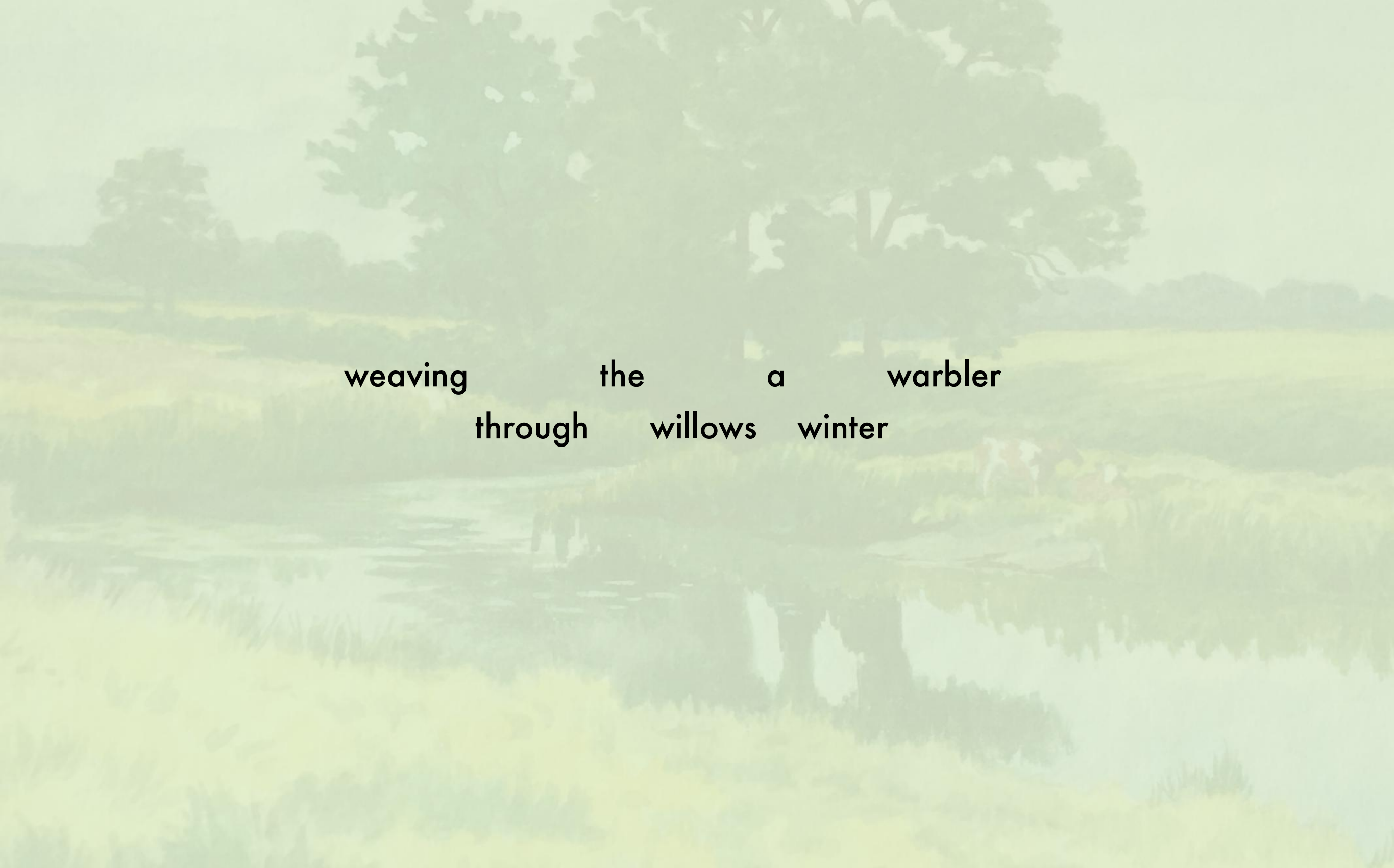
early thaw ...
rooks quarrel over
my dog's stick



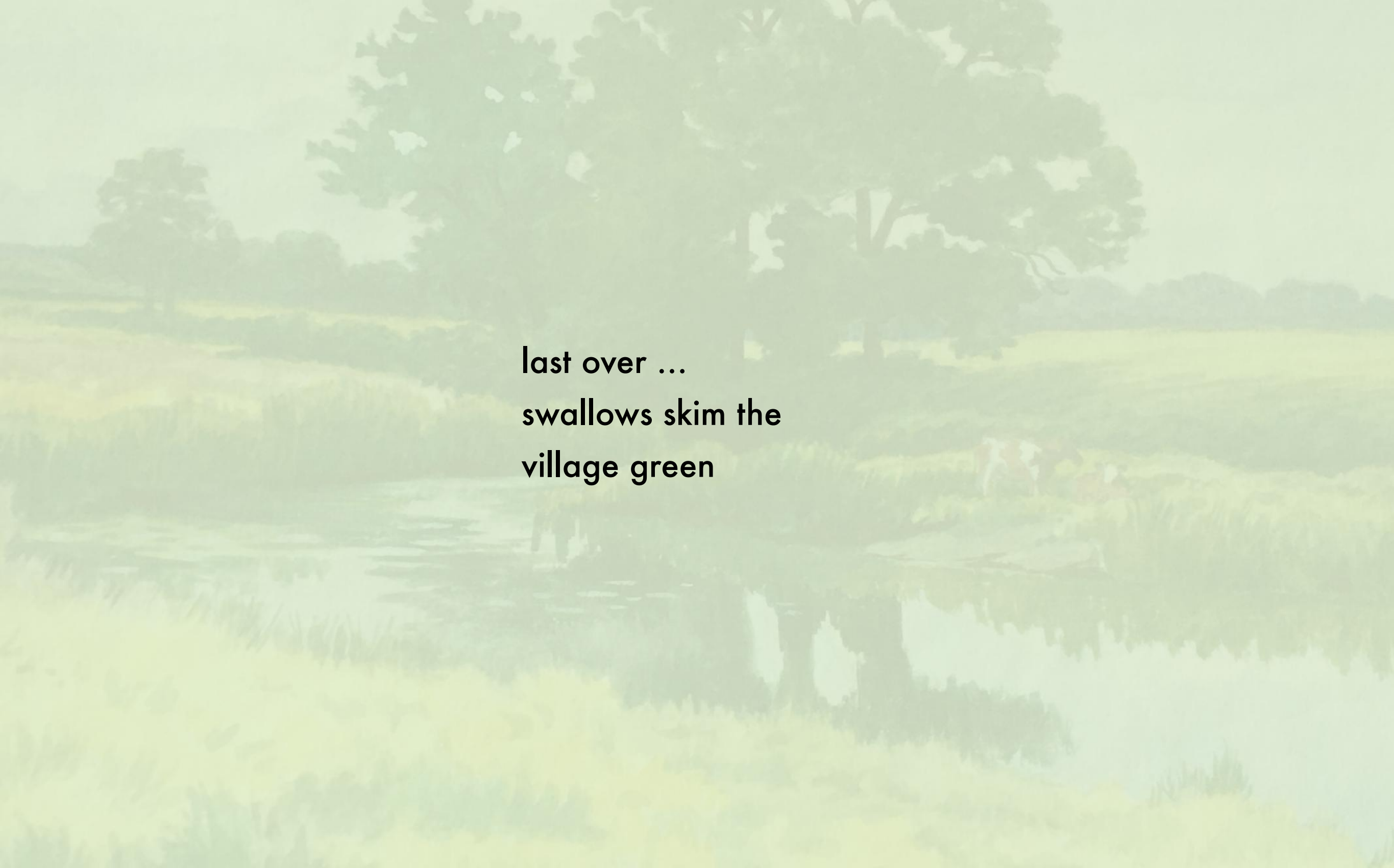
in shadow
the blackthorn winter
lingers

A soft, painterly landscape scene. In the foreground, a body of water reflects the sky and the surrounding greenery. A large, leafy tree stands prominently on the right side of the frame. In the middle ground, a herd of cows is grazing in a field. The background is shrouded in a thick, pale fog, creating a sense of depth and atmosphere. The overall color palette is muted, with greens, blues, and greys.

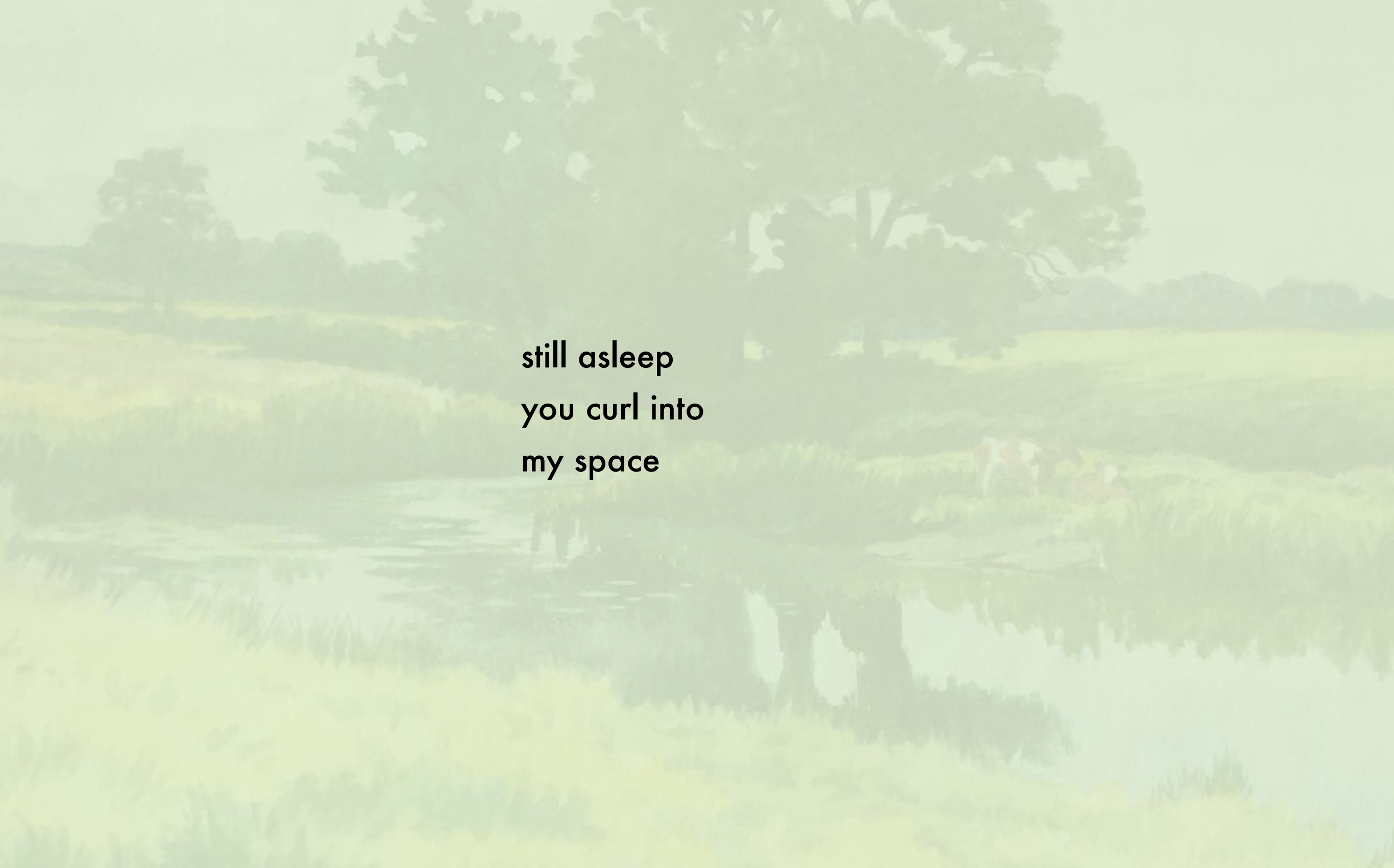
dense fog ...
before it appears
the loon's cry

A soft-focus landscape painting in a painterly style. In the foreground, a calm river reflects the sky and the surrounding greenery. A large, leafy tree stands prominently on the right bank, its reflection visible in the water. To the left, a smaller tree is visible in the distance. In the middle ground, a herd of cows is grazing on a grassy bank. The overall color palette is muted, with greens, blues, and earthy tones, creating a serene and atmospheric scene.

weaving the a warbler
through willows winter



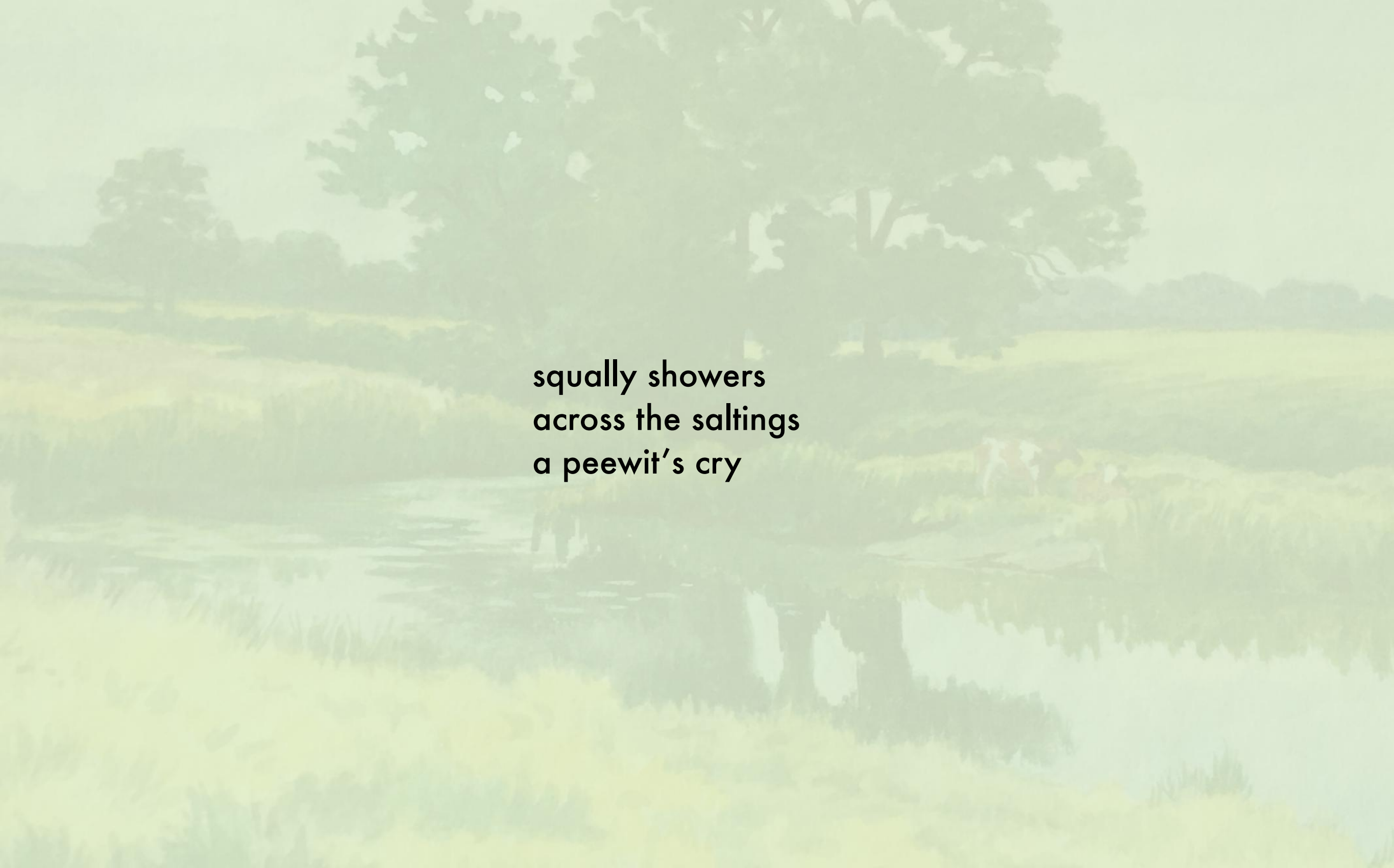
last over ...
swallows skim the
village green



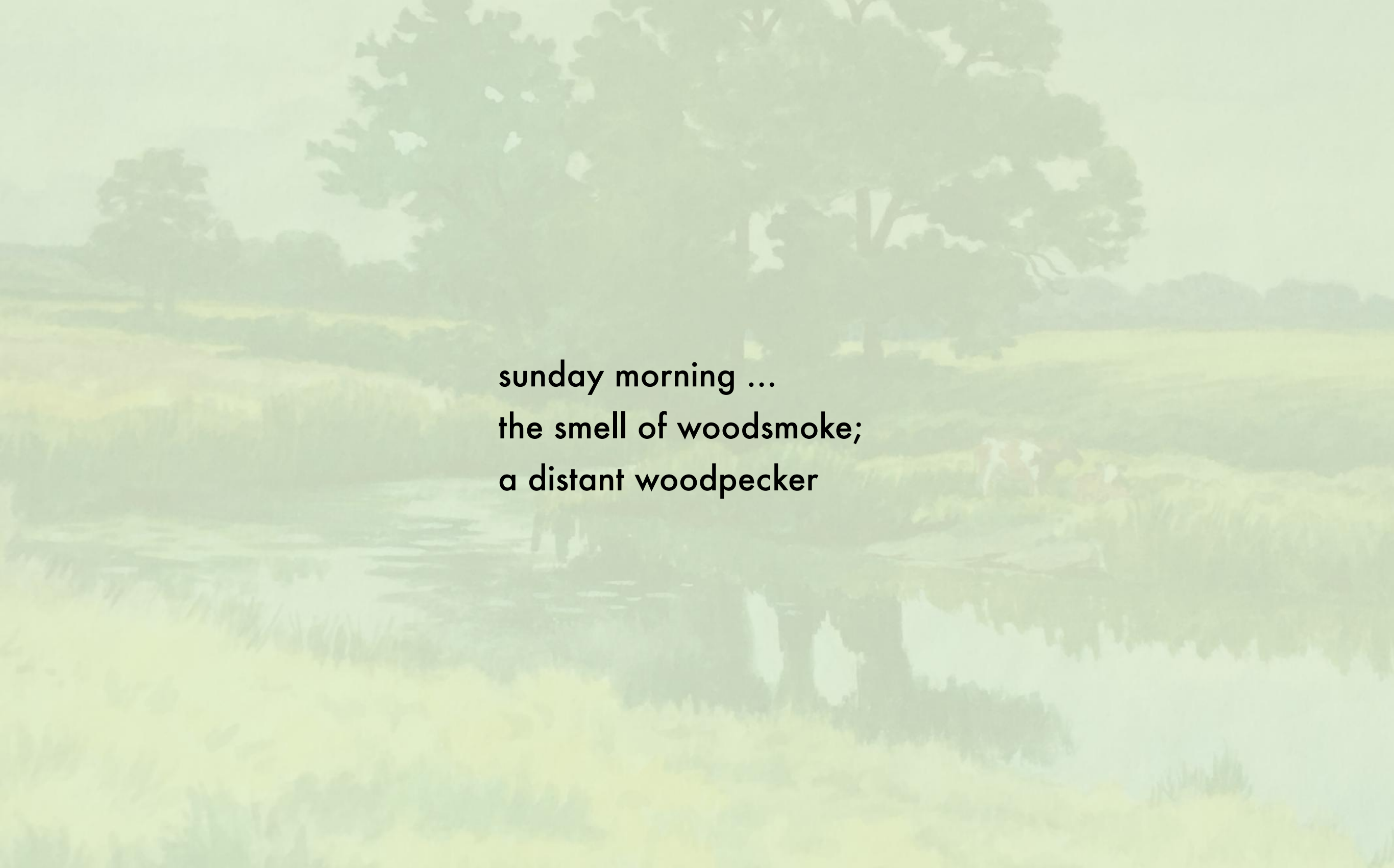
still asleep
you curl into
my space



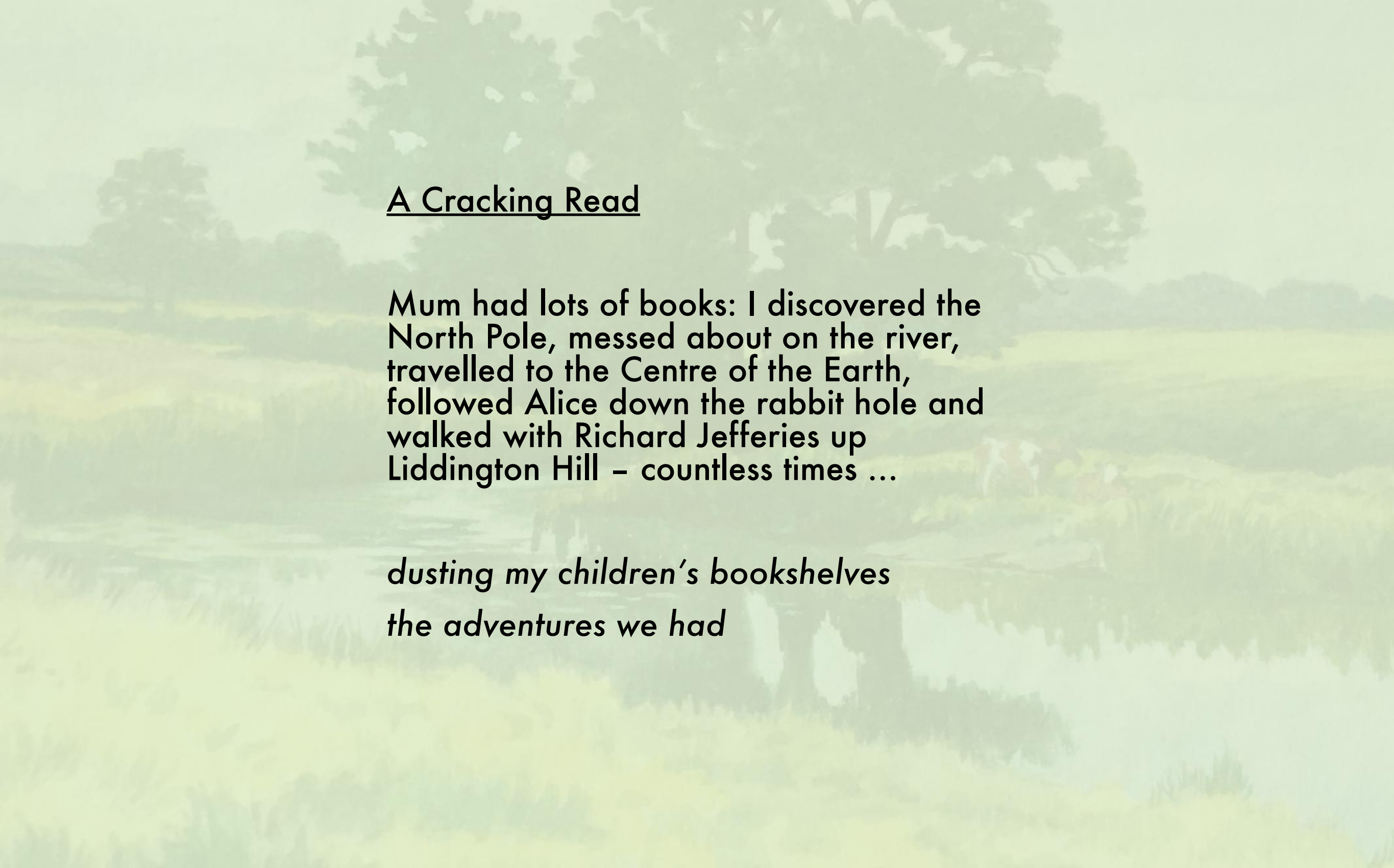
last light ...
yellowhammers
turn to gold



squally showers
across the saltings
a peewit's cry



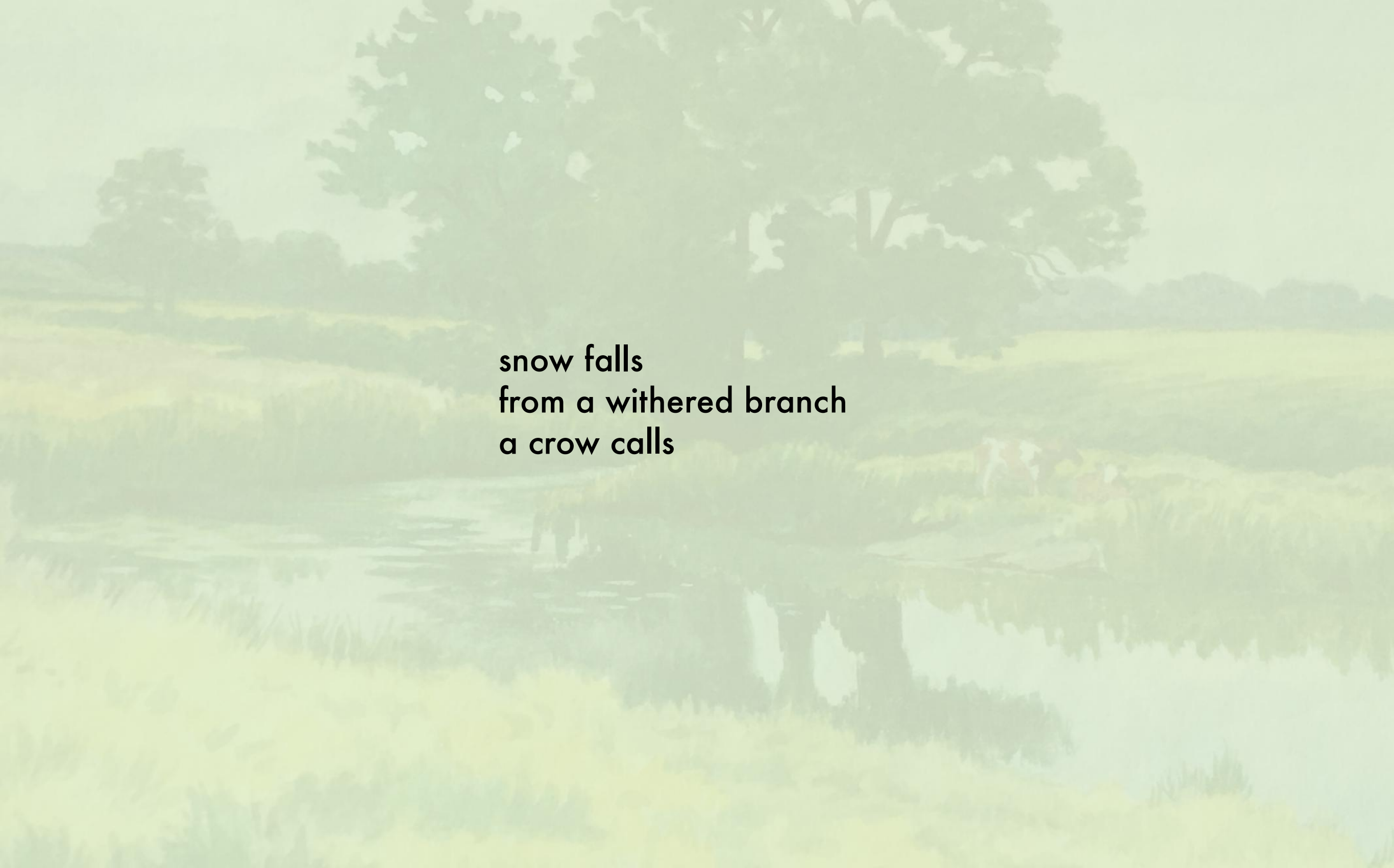
sunday morning ...
the smell of woodsmoke;
a distant woodpecker



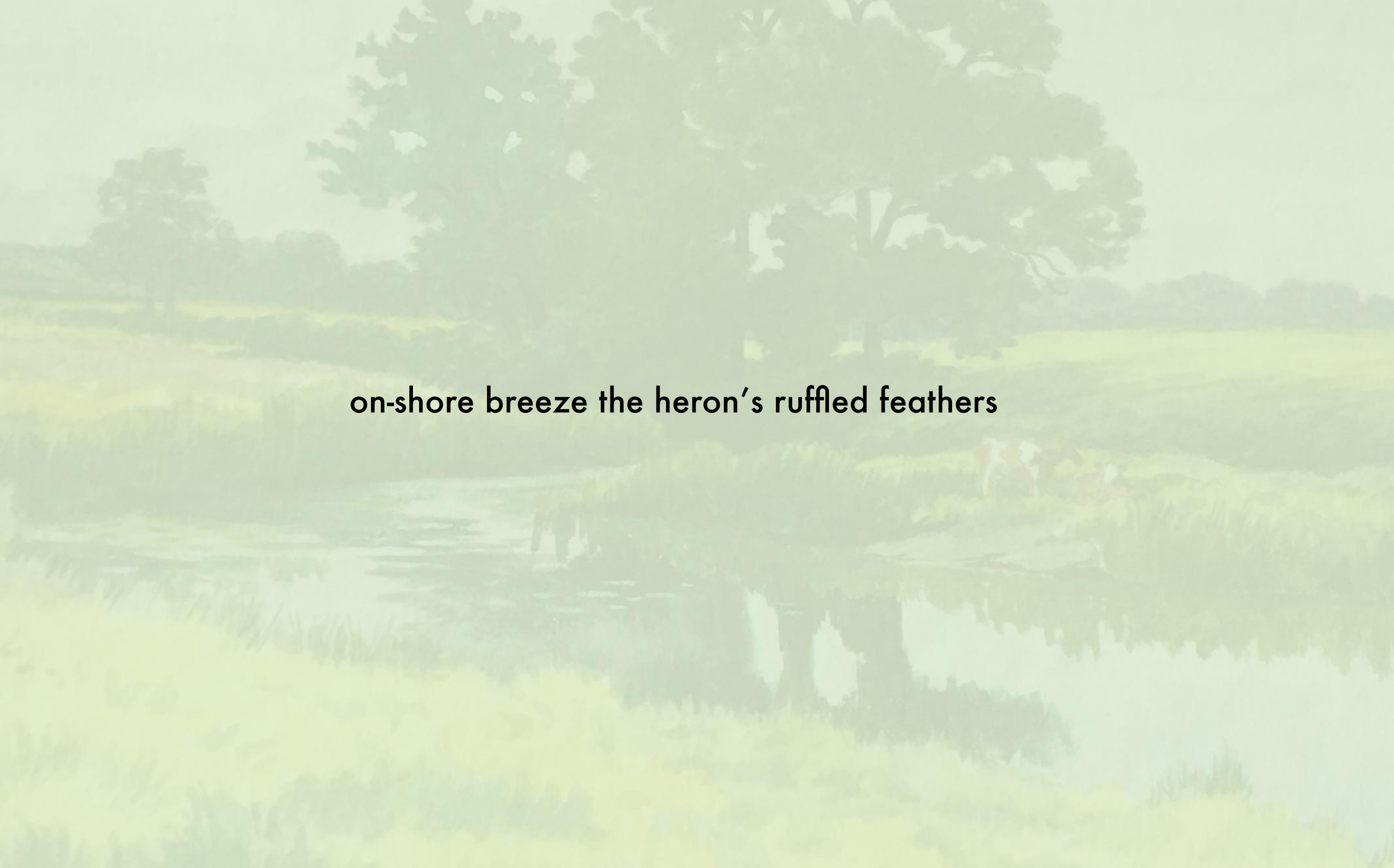
A Cracking Read

Mum had lots of books: I discovered the
North Pole, messed about on the river,
travelled to the Centre of the Earth,
followed Alice down the rabbit hole and
walked with Richard Jefferies up
Liddington Hill – countless times ...

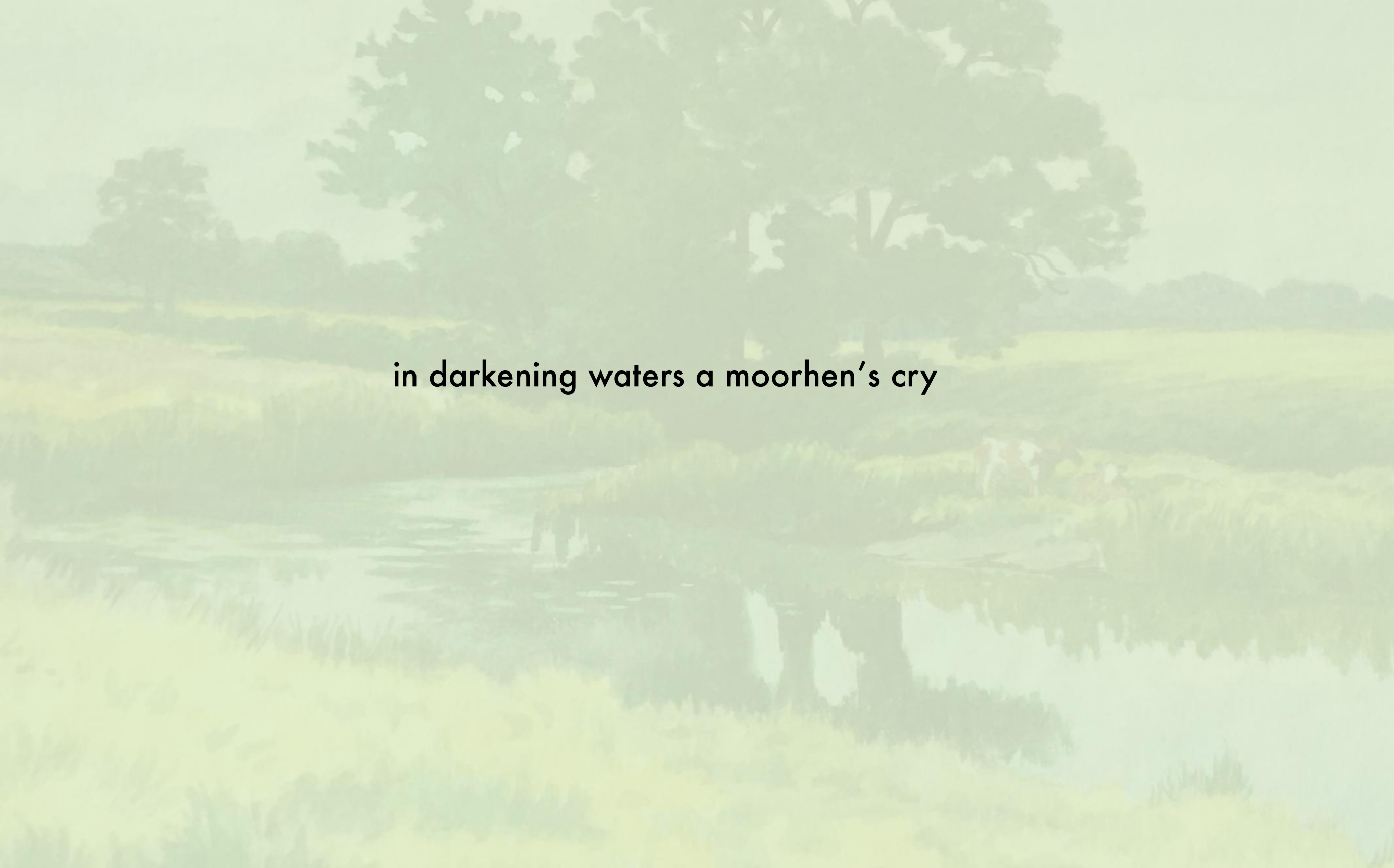
dusting my children's bookshelves
the adventures we had



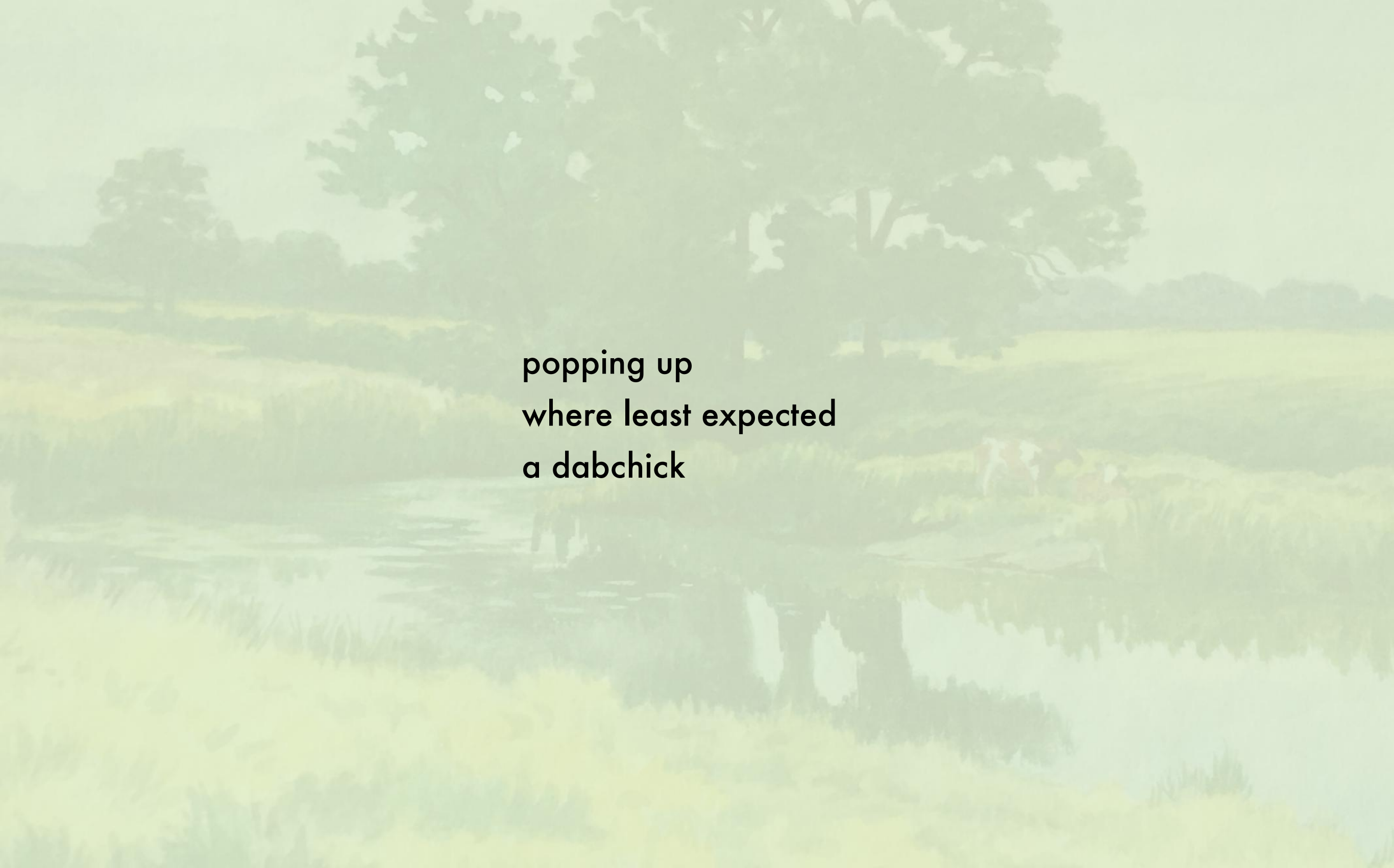
snow falls
from a withered branch
a crow calls



on-shore breeze the heron's ruffled feathers

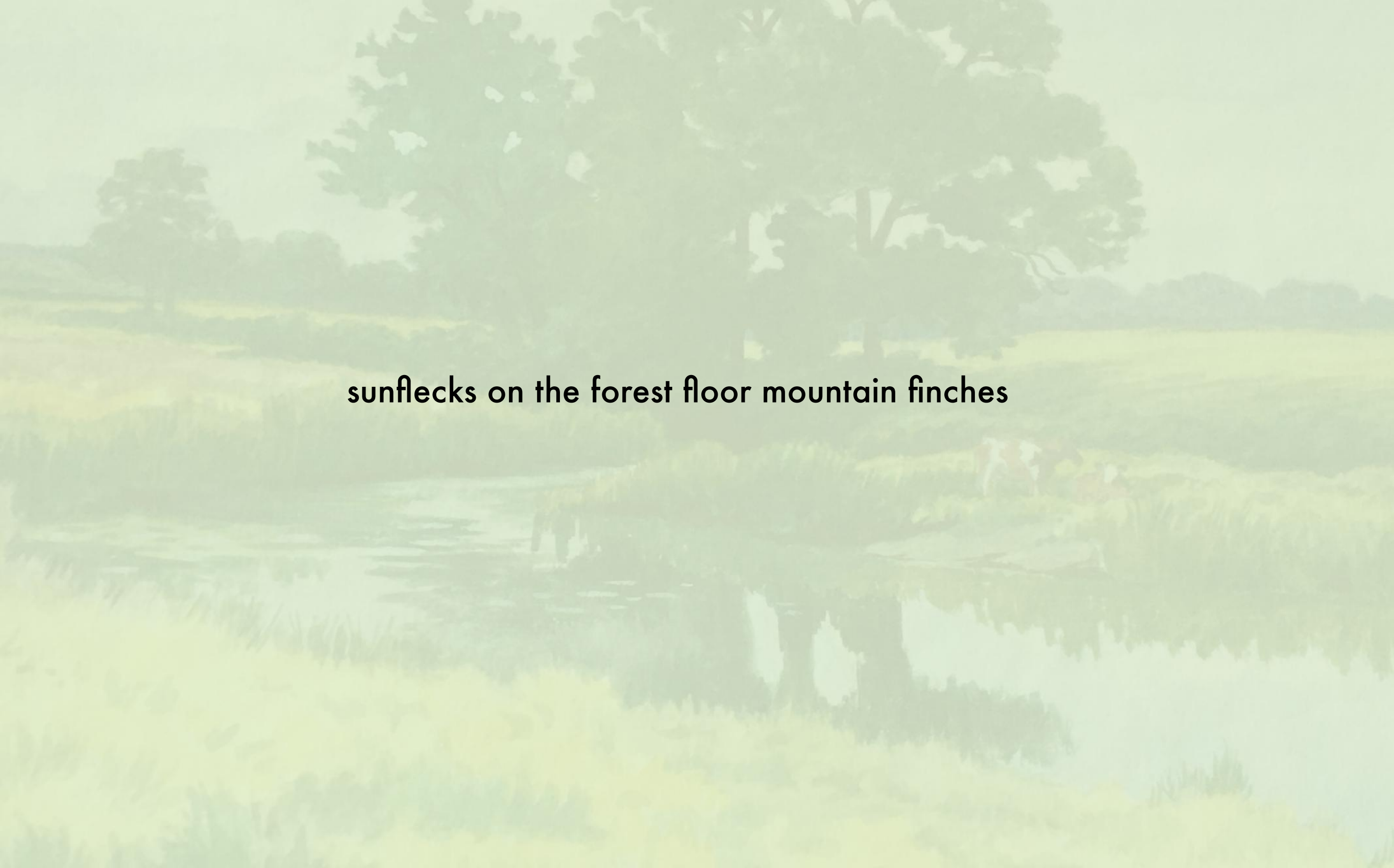
A painterly illustration of a rural landscape. A large, leafy tree stands in the center background, its reflection visible in a pond in the foreground. To the left of the pond, a person is walking. To the right, a group of cows is grazing. The scene is set in a grassy field with rolling hills in the distance. The overall style is soft and artistic, with a muted color palette.

in darkening waters a moorhen's cry

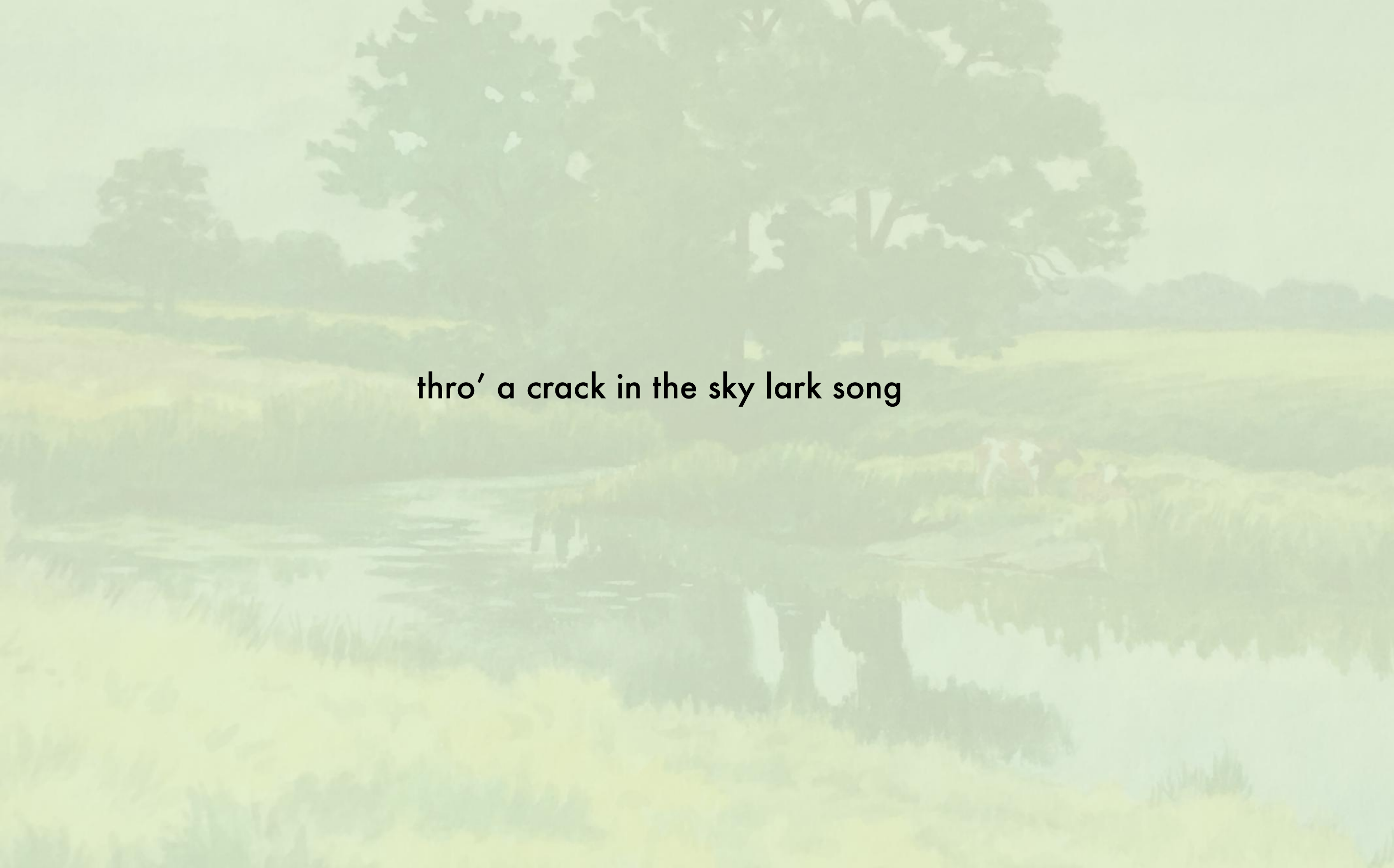


popping up
where least expected
a dabchick

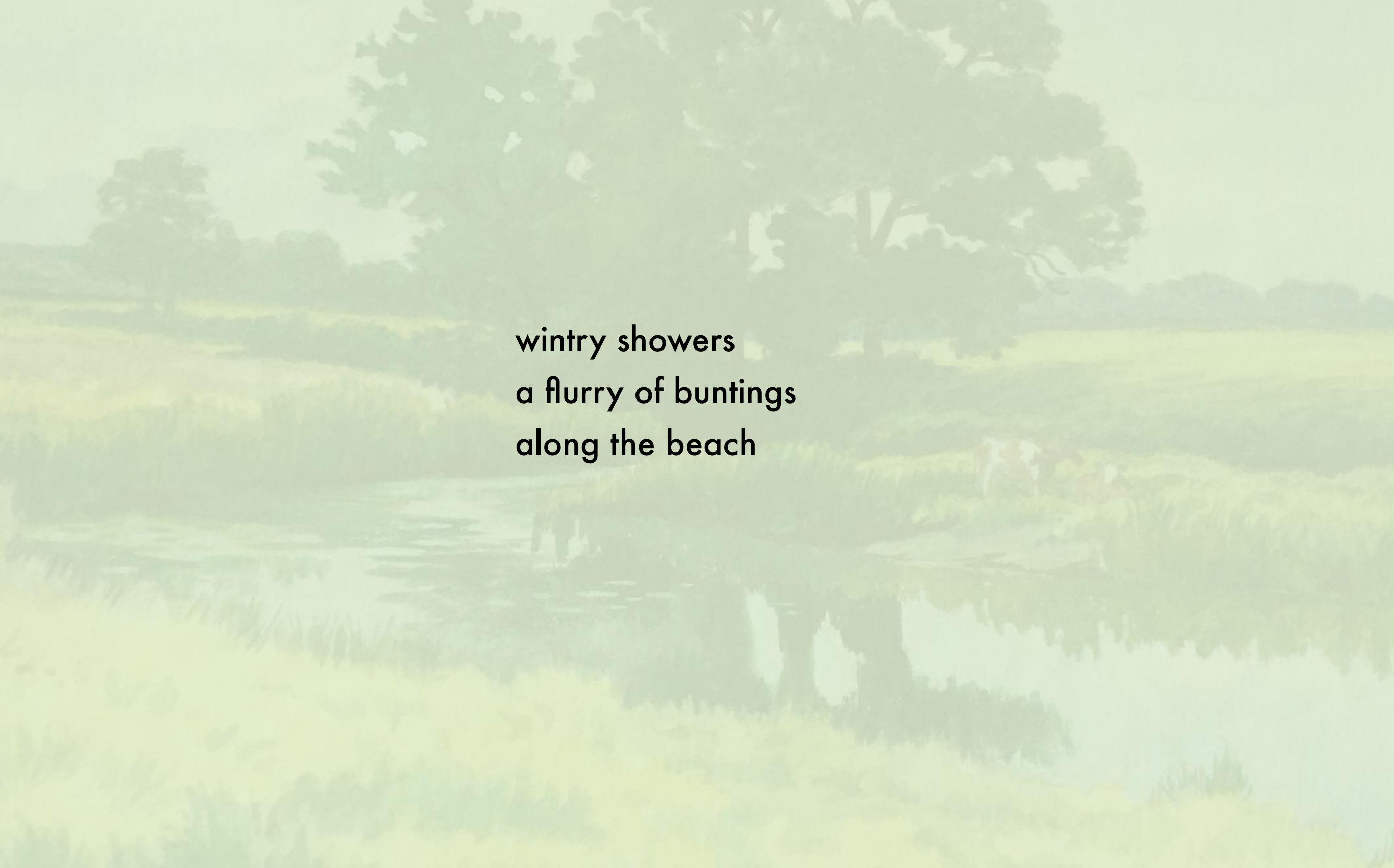
**Boxing Day
in the conservatory
Miss Scarlett**

The background is a soft, painterly illustration of a landscape. A large, leafy tree stands in the upper center. Below it, a body of water reflects the scene. In the distance, there are rolling hills and another smaller tree on the left. The overall color palette is muted, with greens, blues, and earthy tones.

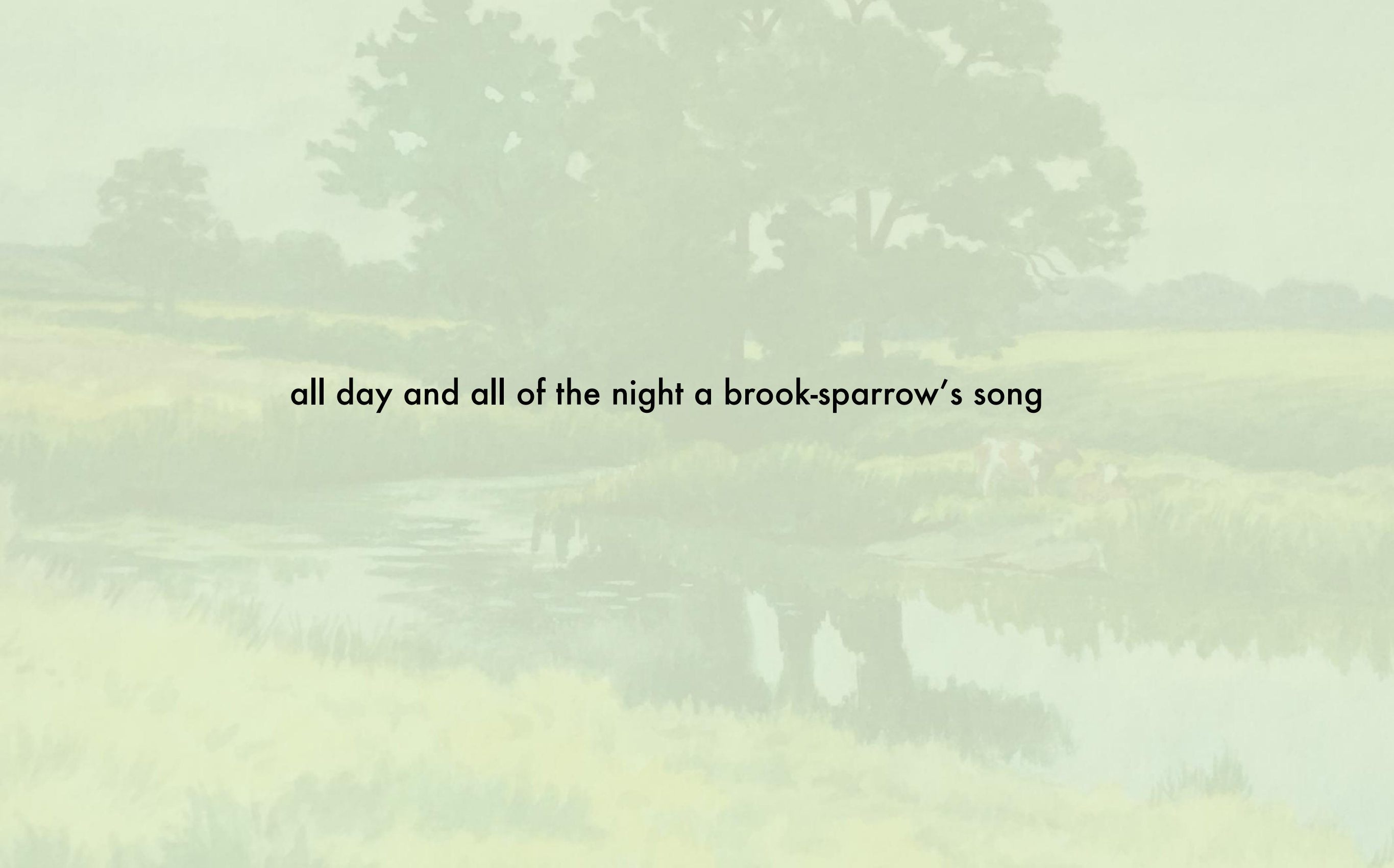
sunflecks on the forest floor mountain finches



thro' a crack in the sky lark song



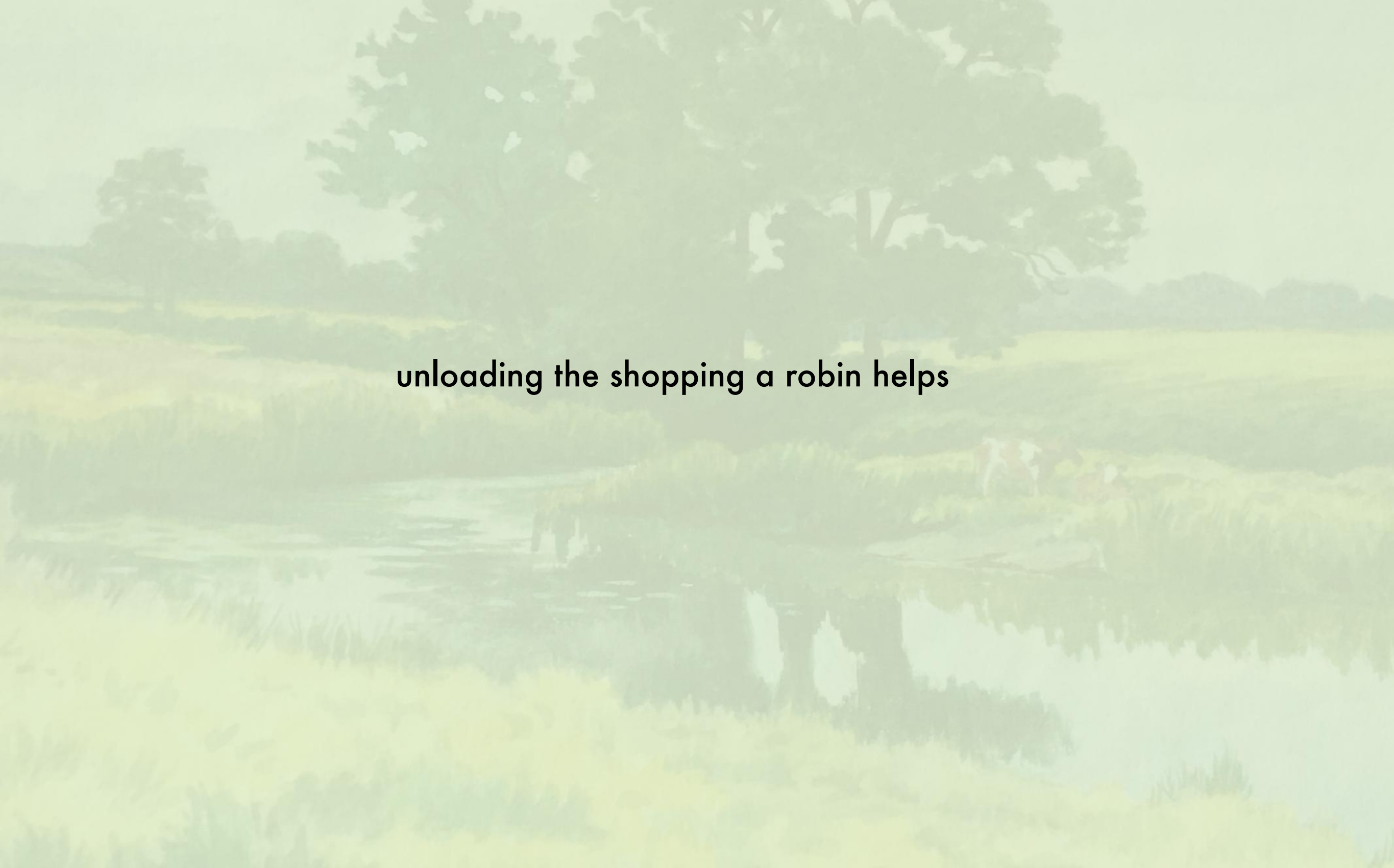
wintry showers
a flurry of buntings
along the beach

A soft-focus illustration of a rural landscape. In the foreground, a large, leafy tree stands on a grassy bank. A stream flows through the middle ground, reflecting the sky and the surrounding greenery. Several cows are grazing in the field on the right side of the stream. The background shows rolling hills and more trees under a pale, hazy sky. The overall color palette is muted and naturalistic, with greens, browns, and soft blues.

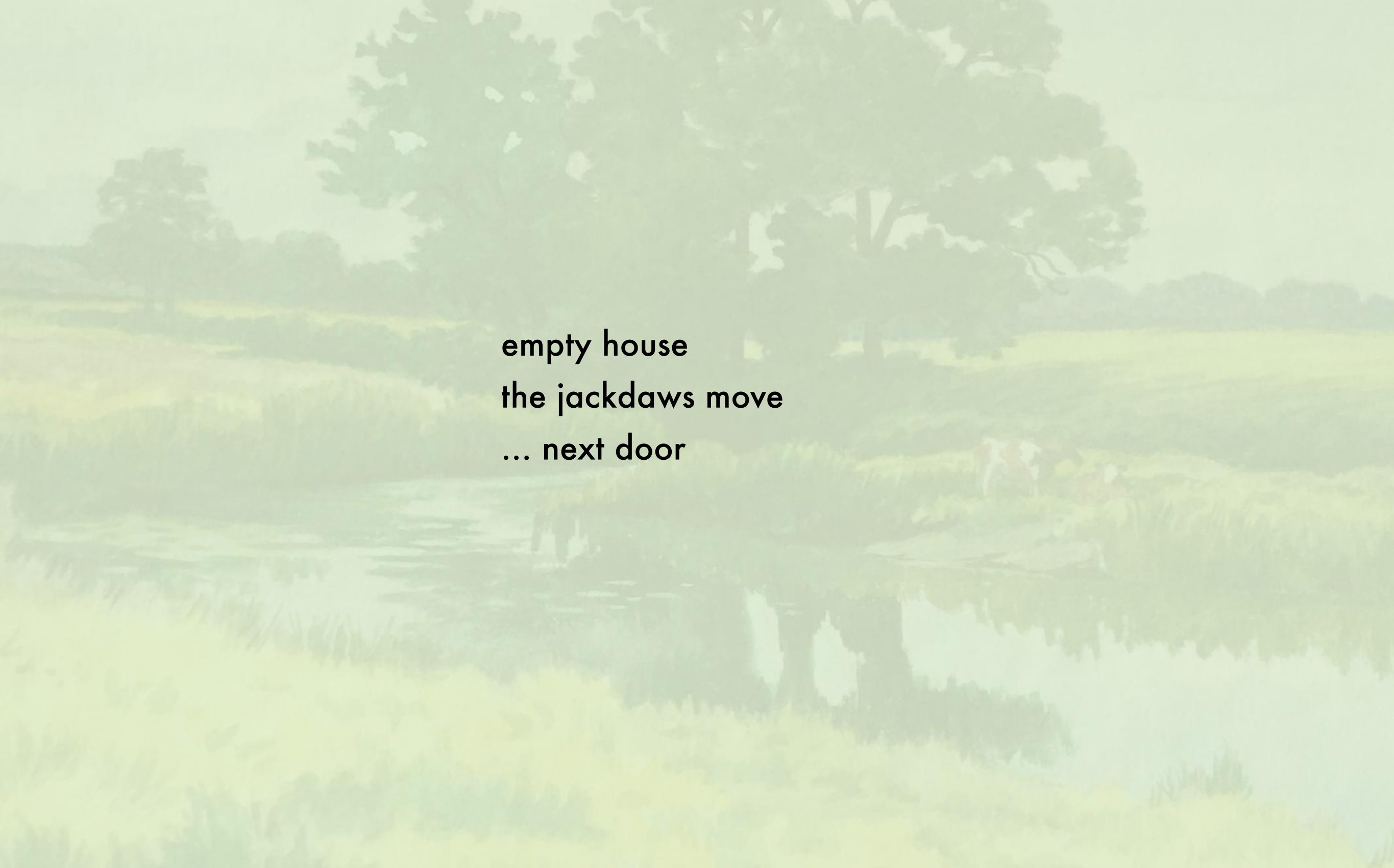
all day and all of the night a brook-sparrow's song



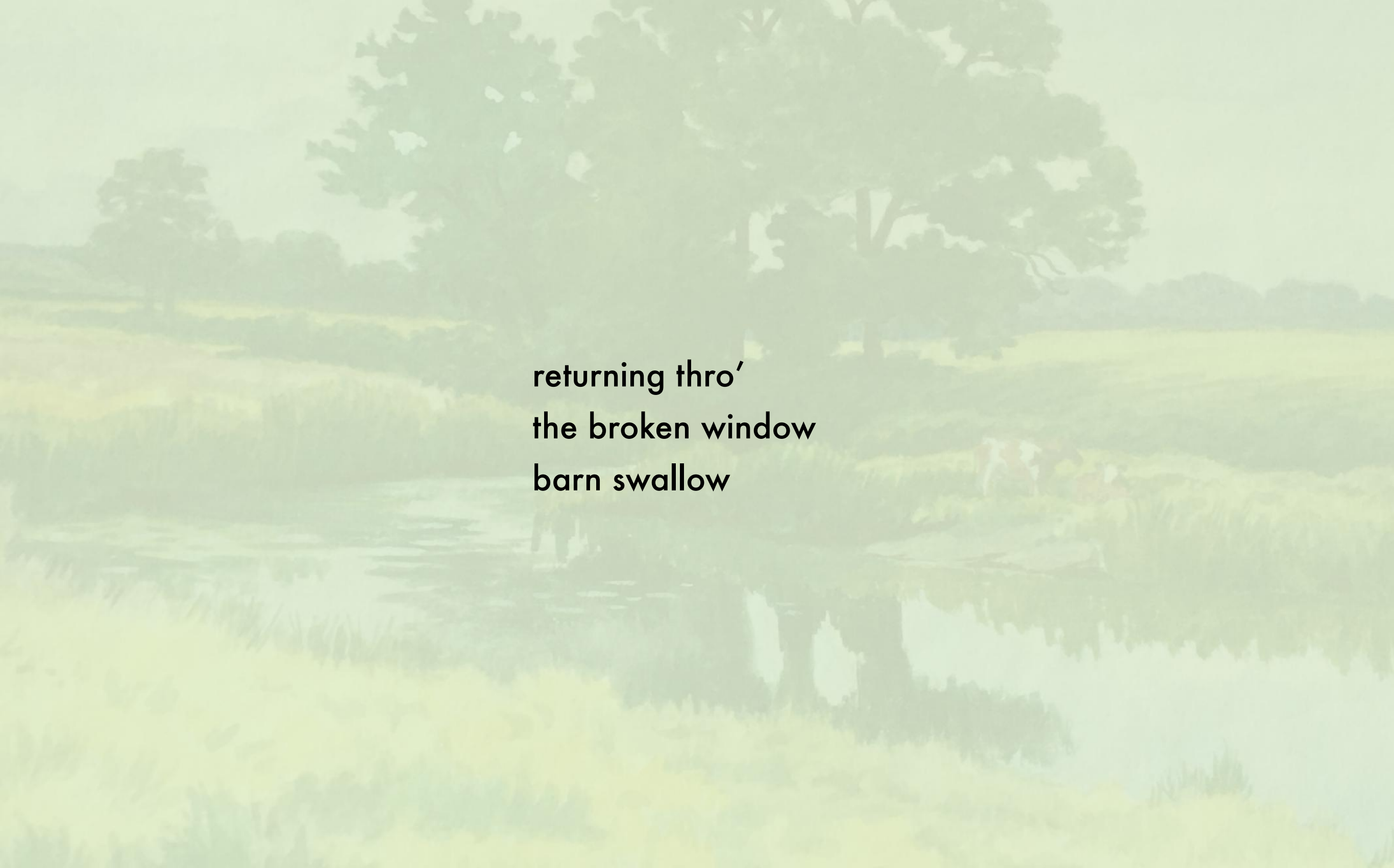
alfresco dining a robin song



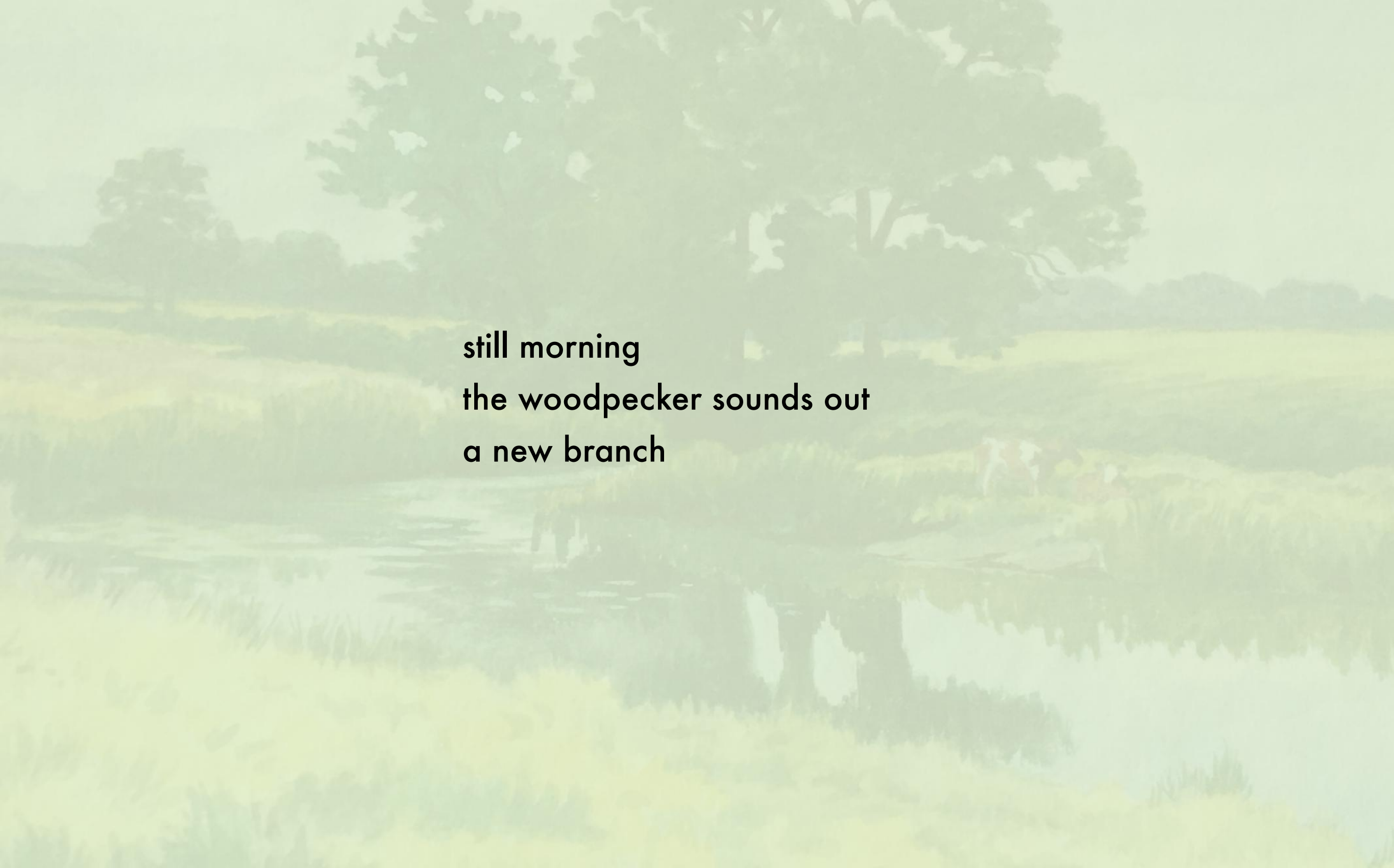
unloading the shopping a robin helps



empty house
the jackdaws move
... next door



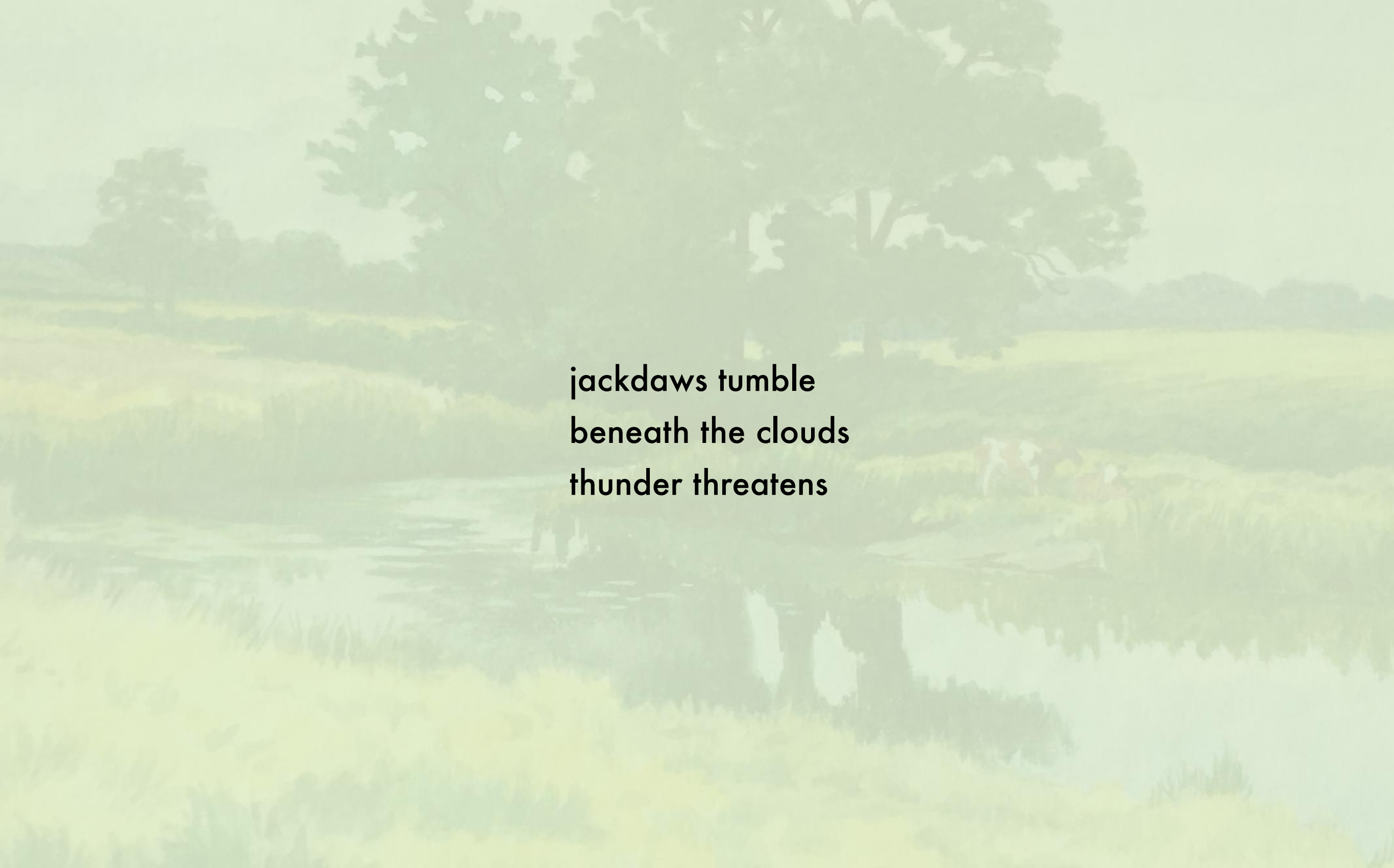
returning thro'
the broken window
barn swallow



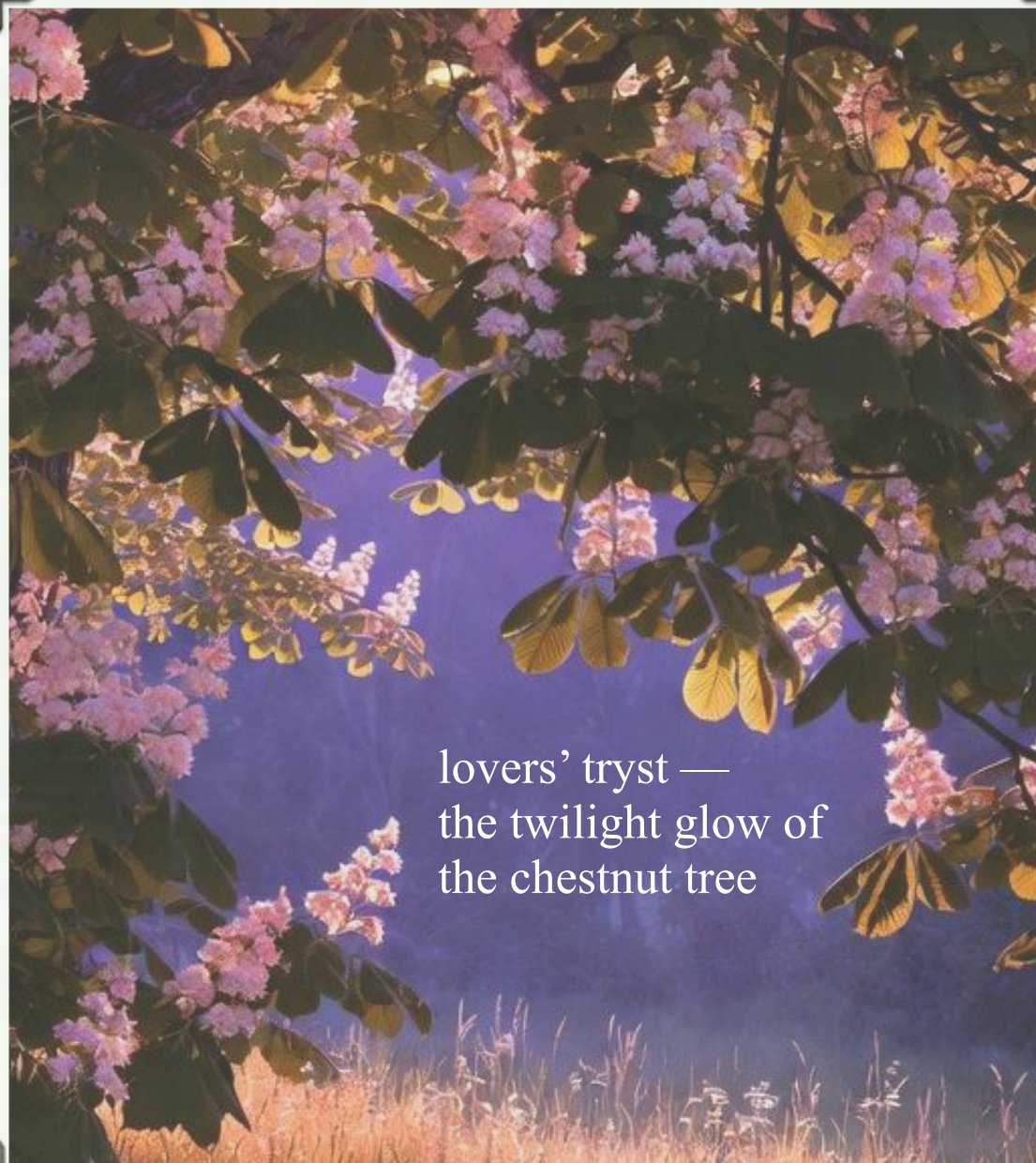
still morning
the woodpecker sounds out
a new branch

The background image is a soft-focus, painterly landscape. It features a large, dark green tree with a thick trunk in the upper center. Below the tree, a calm body of water reflects the scene. In the middle ground, there are several cows grazing in a grassy field. The overall color palette is muted, with greens, yellows, and greys, giving it a dreamy, ethereal quality.

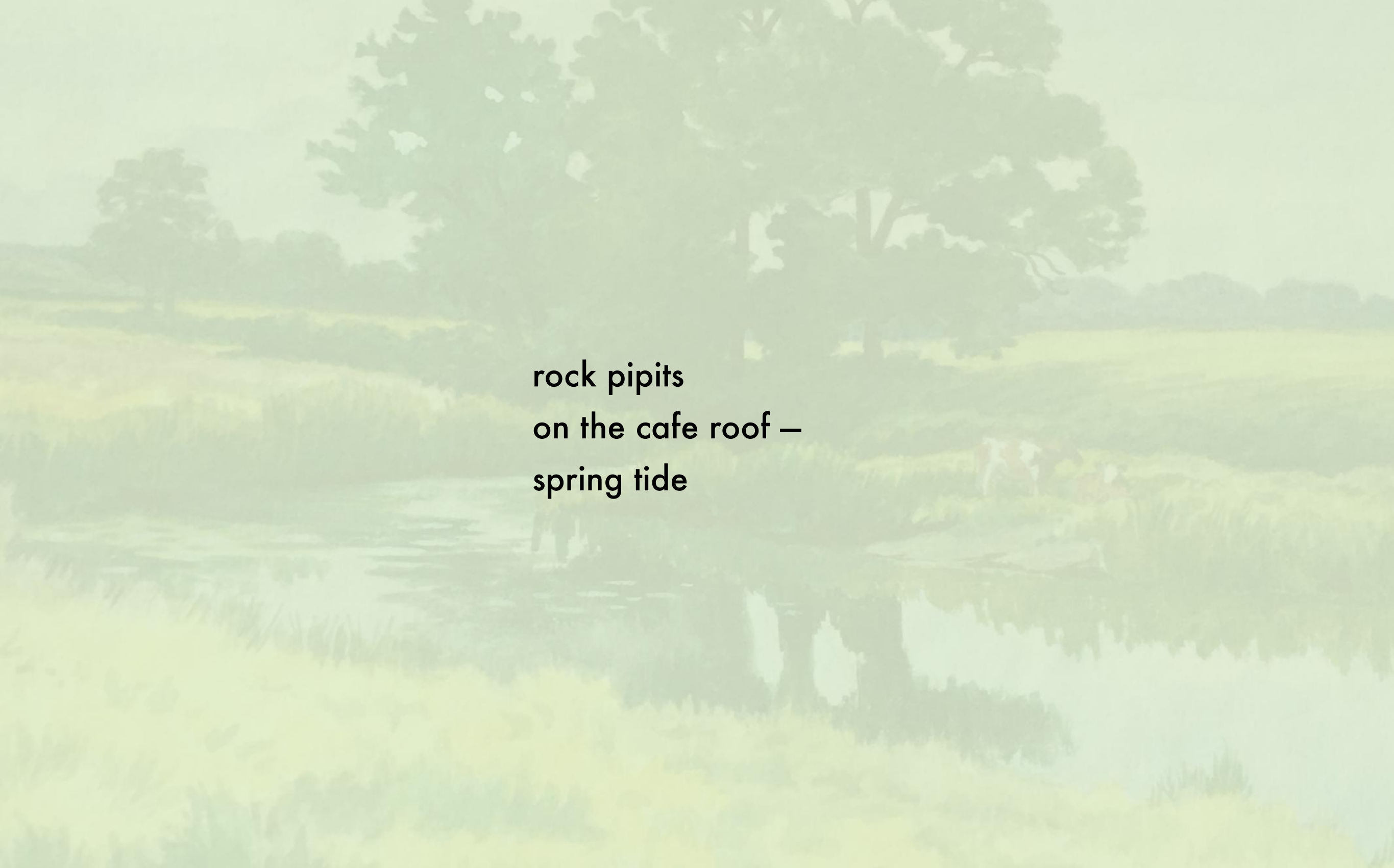
pink contrails the calls of wild geese



jackdaws tumble
beneath the clouds
thunder threatens



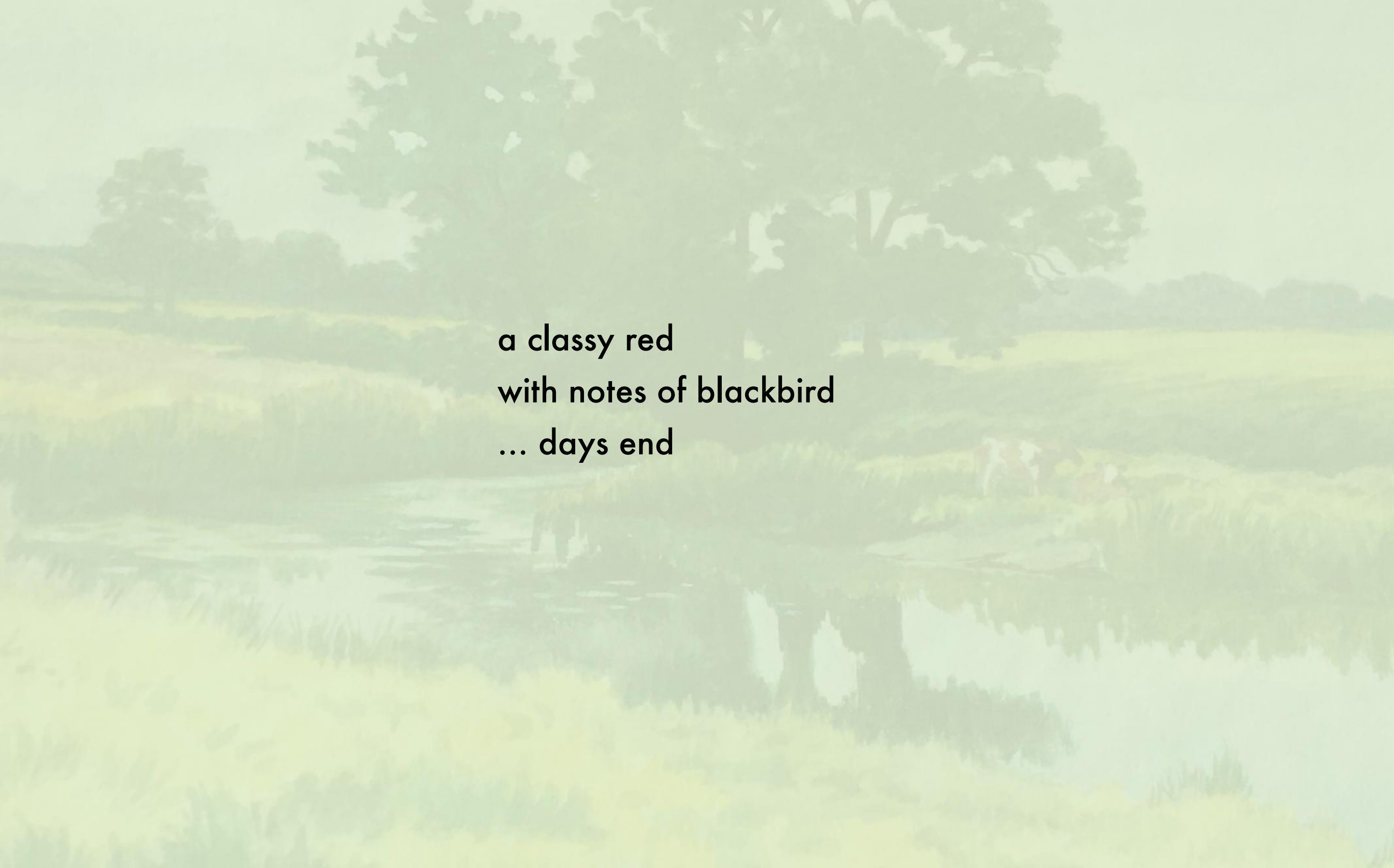
lovers' tryst —
the twilight glow of
the chestnut tree



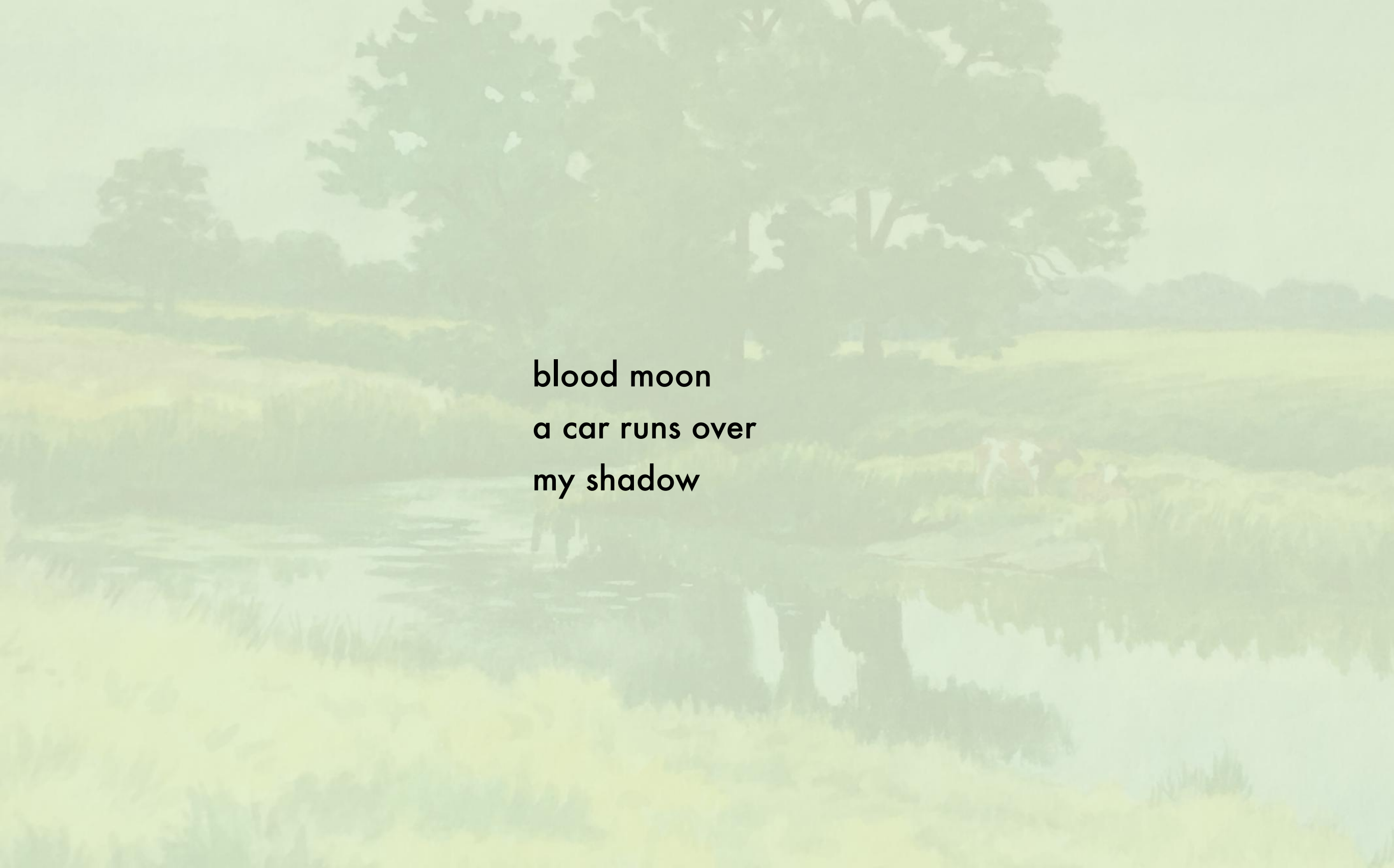
rock pipits
on the cafe roof —
spring tide



lost in dreams
of summer skies ...
last swallows



a classy red
with notes of blackbird
... days end

A painterly landscape with a large, dark green tree in the center. A pond in the foreground reflects the tree and the sky. In the background, there are rolling hills and a few cows grazing in a field. The overall style is soft and impressionistic, with a muted color palette.

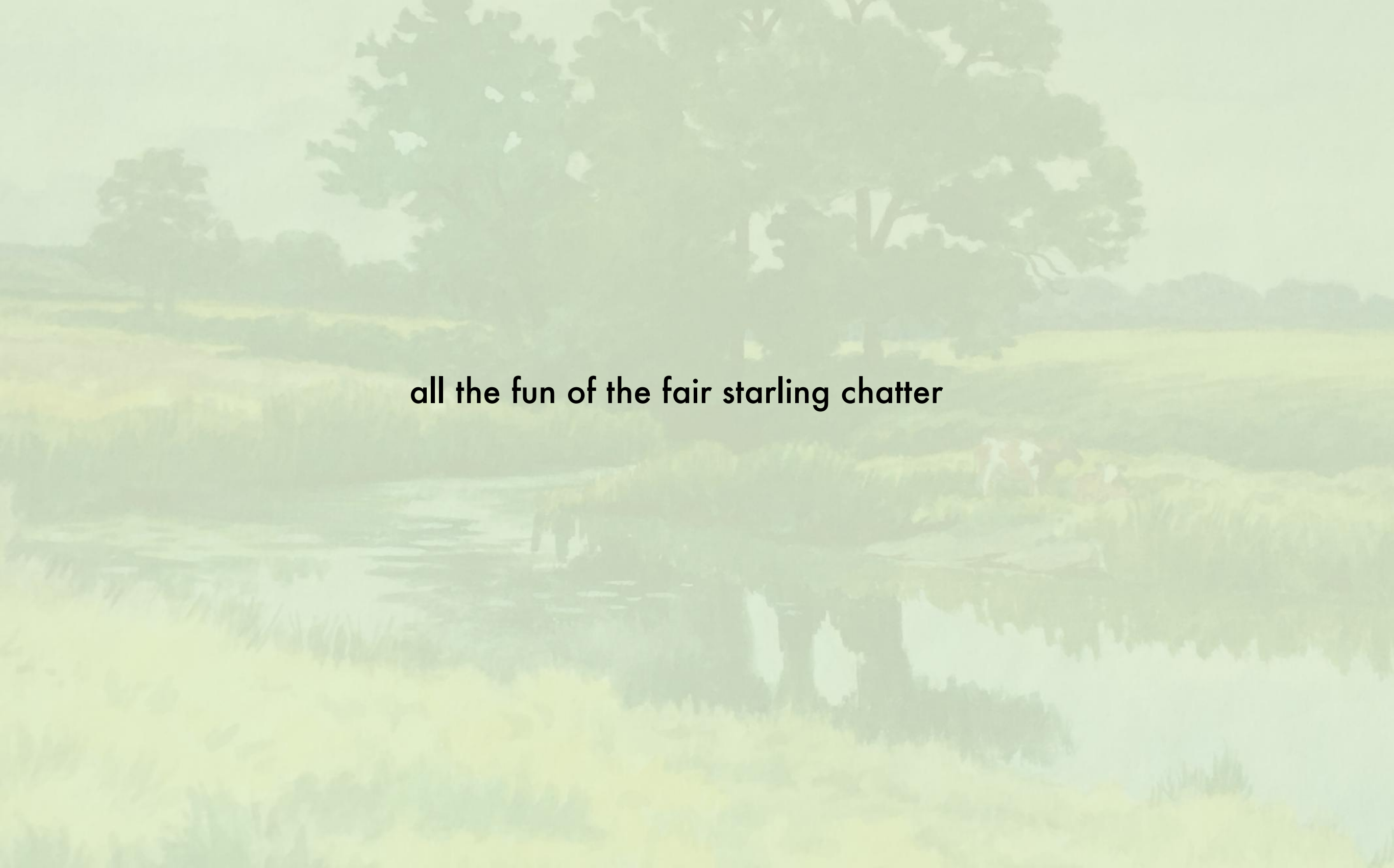
blood moon
a car runs over
my shadow



longest day a quail calls time

The background is a soft-focus, painterly landscape. A large, dark green tree with a thick trunk stands in the upper center. Below it, a body of water reflects the scene. In the distance, rolling hills and another smaller tree are visible under a pale sky. The overall color palette is muted, with greens, blues, and earthy tones.

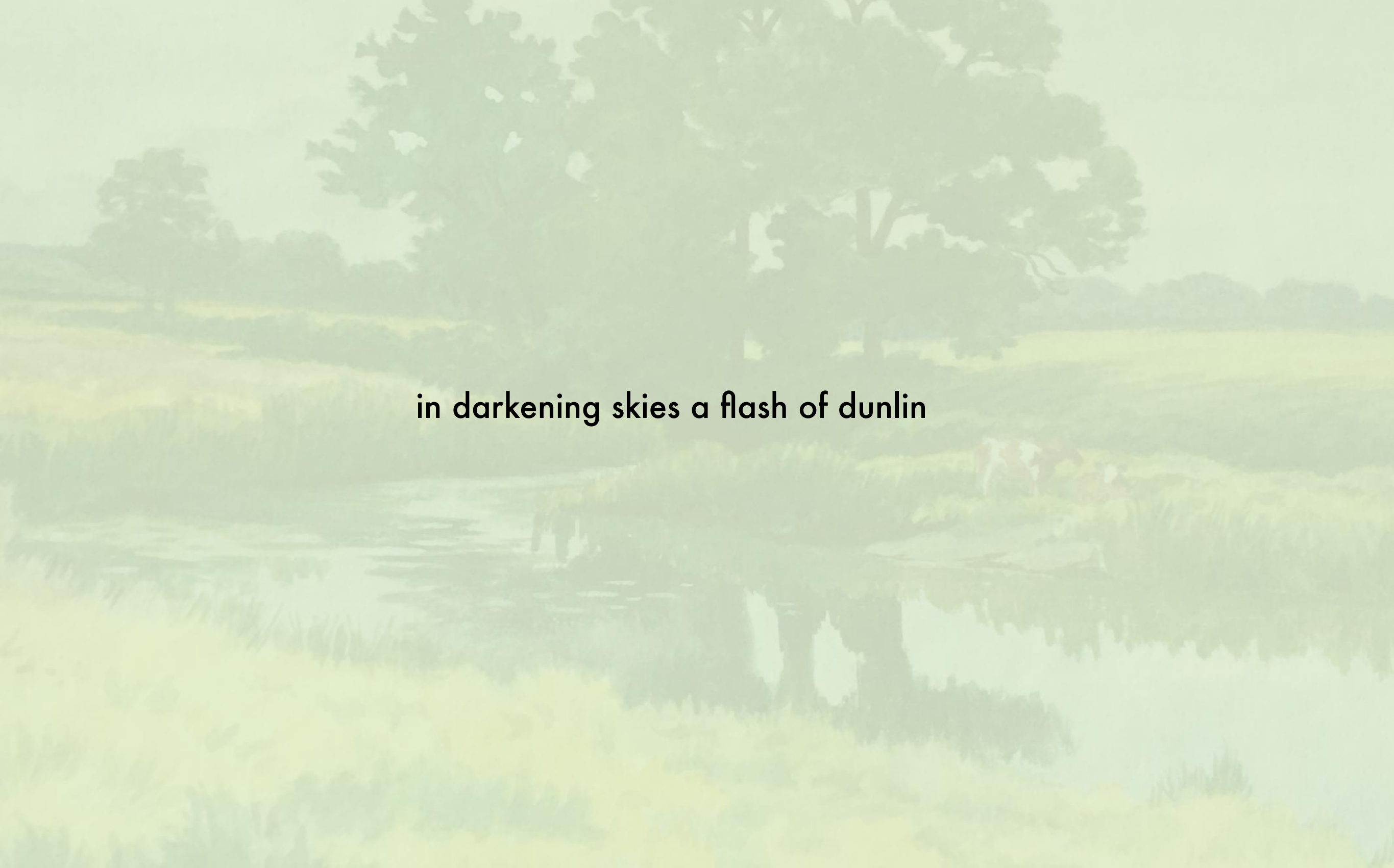
tangled in the wind-chimes goldfinch song

A soft-focus illustration of a rural landscape. In the foreground, a large, leafy tree stands on a grassy bank. To its left, a calm pond reflects the surrounding greenery. In the middle ground, a group of cows, including a prominent red and white one, are grazing in a field. The background features rolling hills and more trees under a pale, hazy sky. The overall style is painterly and serene.

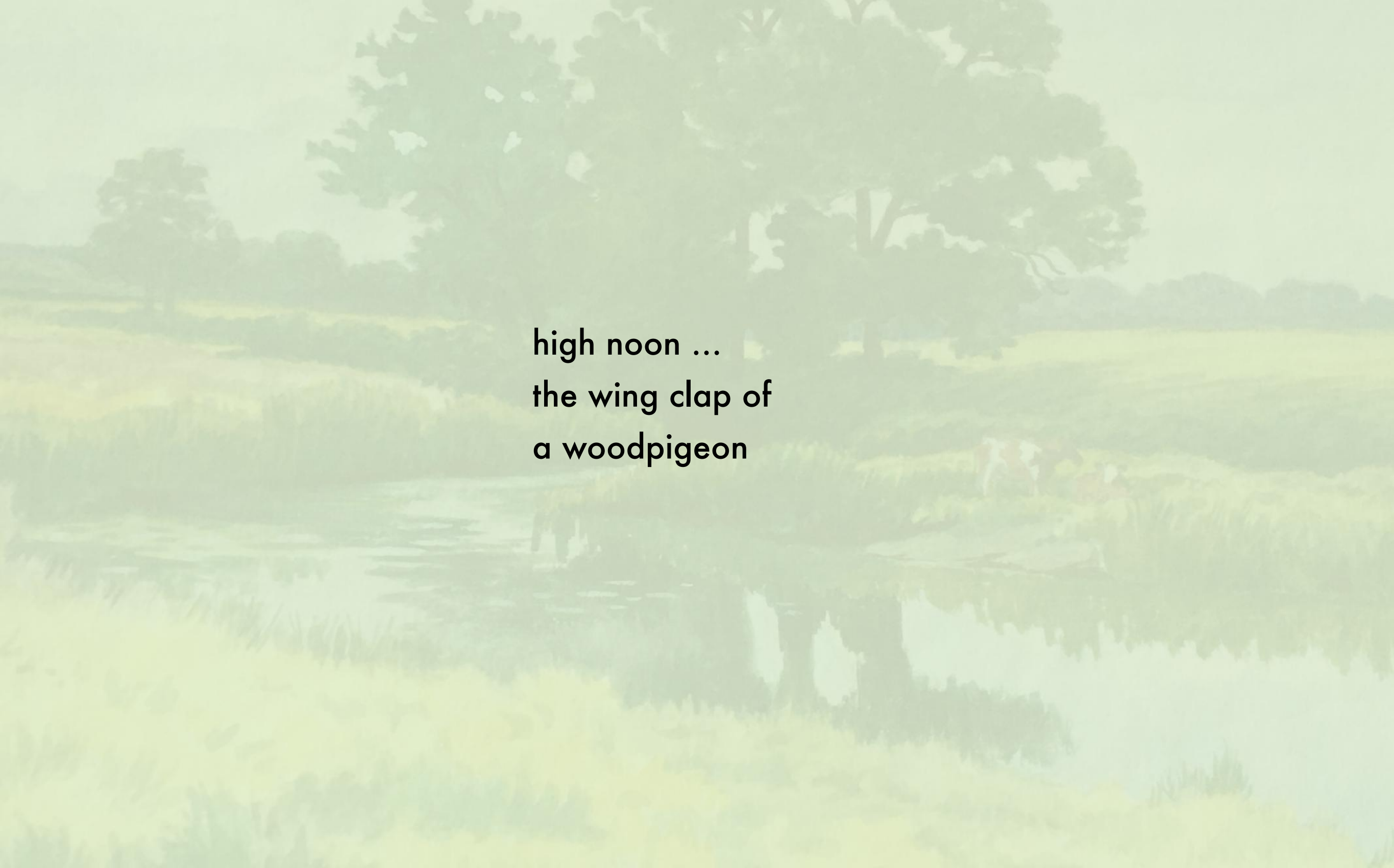
all the fun of the fair starling chatter



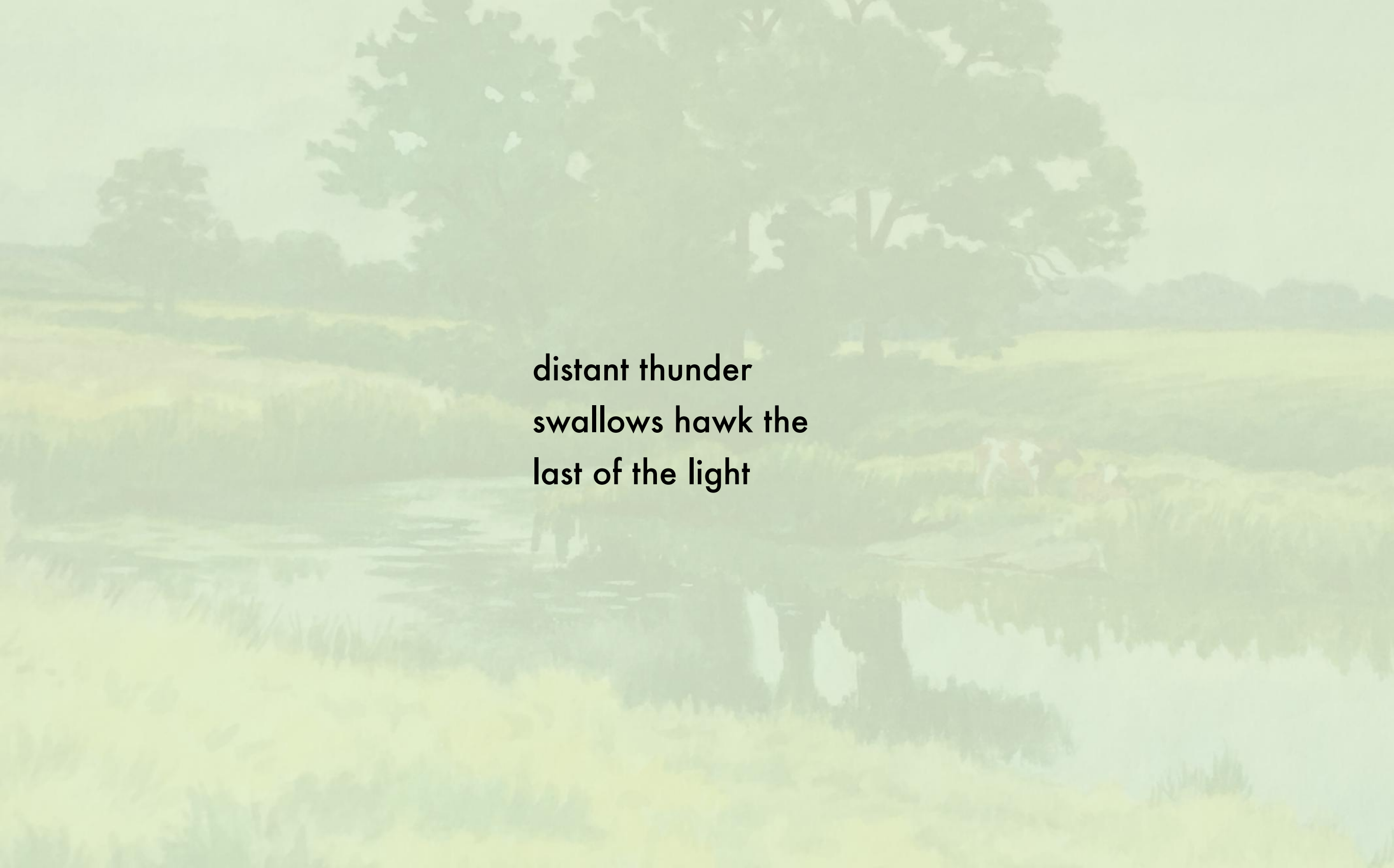
last leaves blow
across the lawn
starling chatter

A painterly landscape illustration. In the foreground, a body of water reflects the sky and the surrounding greenery. To the left, a large, dark tree stands prominently. In the middle ground, a grassy field is visible with several cows grazing. The background shows rolling hills and a soft, hazy sky. The overall style is soft and atmospheric, with a muted color palette.

in darkening skies a flash of dunlin



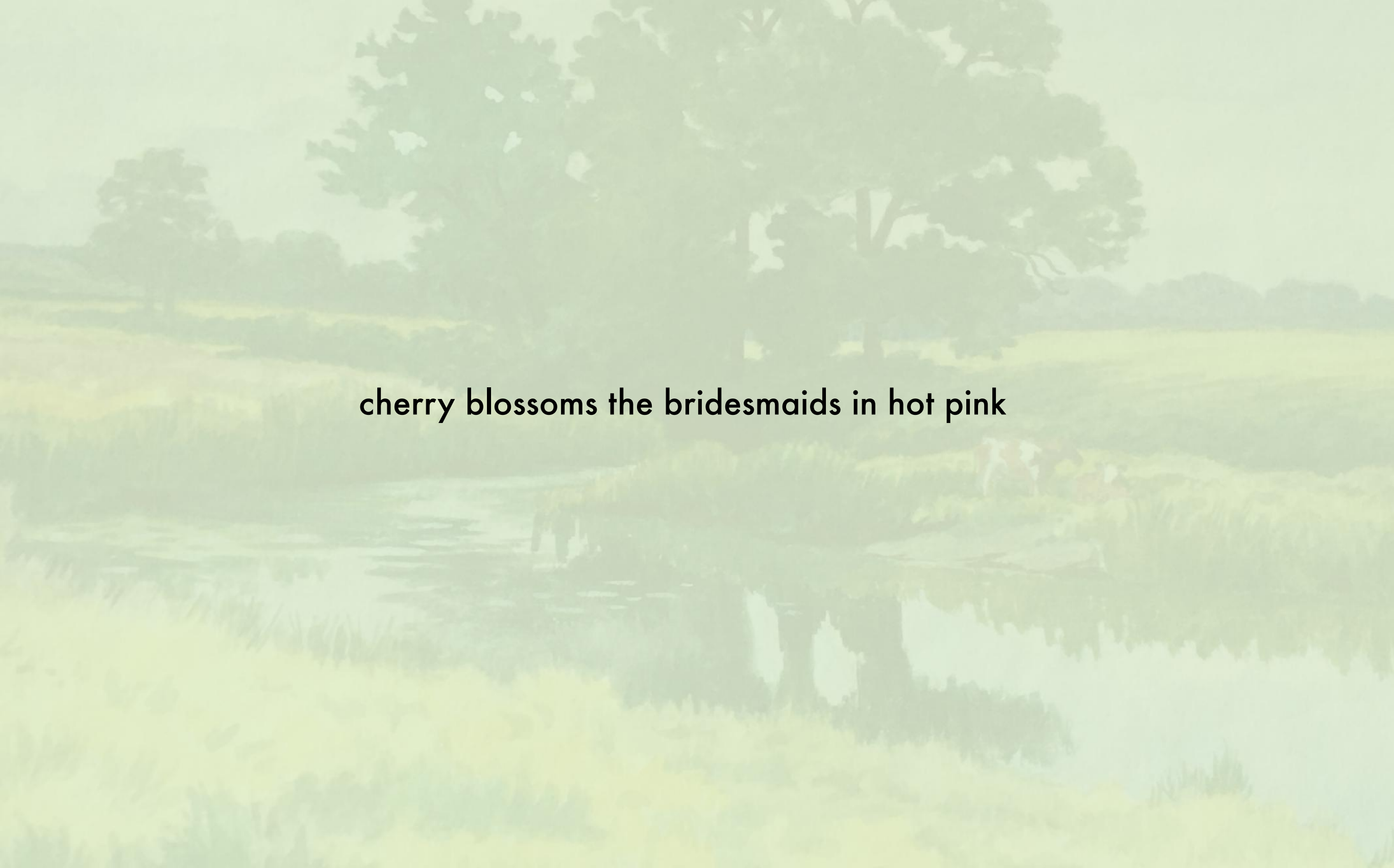
high noon ...
the wing clap of
a woodpigeon

A painterly landscape scene. In the foreground, a large, dark, leafy tree stands on a grassy bank. To its left, a calm body of water reflects the sky and the tree. In the middle ground, a herd of cows, including a prominent white and brown spotted one, is grazing in a field. The background features rolling hills and more distant trees under a soft, hazy sky. The overall style is impressionistic with visible brushstrokes and a muted color palette.

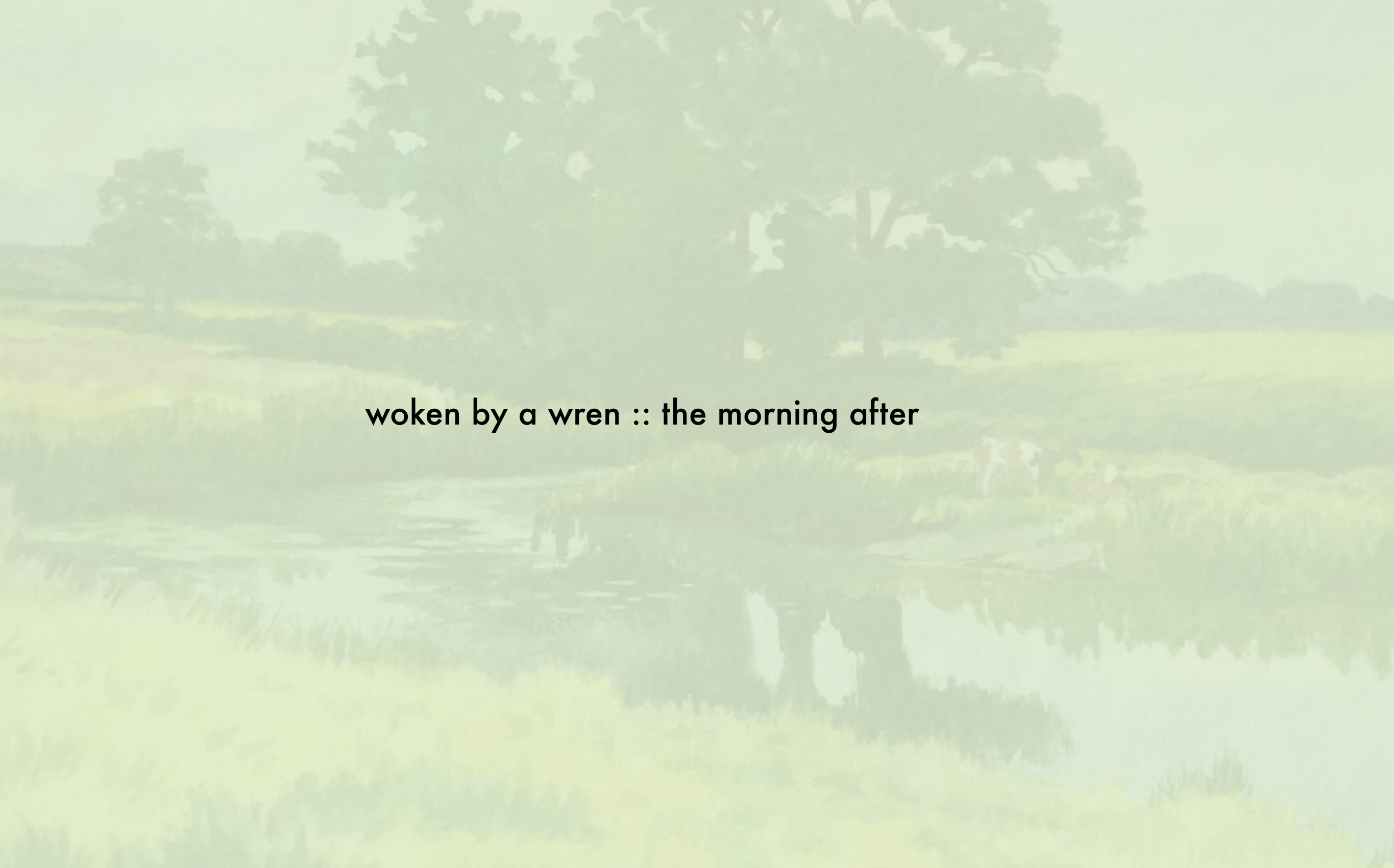
distant thunder
swallows hawk the
last of the light

A soft, painterly landscape scene. In the foreground, a large, dark green tree with a thick trunk stands on a grassy bank. To its right, a small group of cows with brown and white patches are grazing. A body of water, possibly a river or stream, flows through the middle ground, reflecting the light. The background is filled with rolling hills and more trees, all shrouded in a thick, pale fog or mist. The overall color palette is muted, with greens, browns, and greys, creating a serene and atmospheric mood.

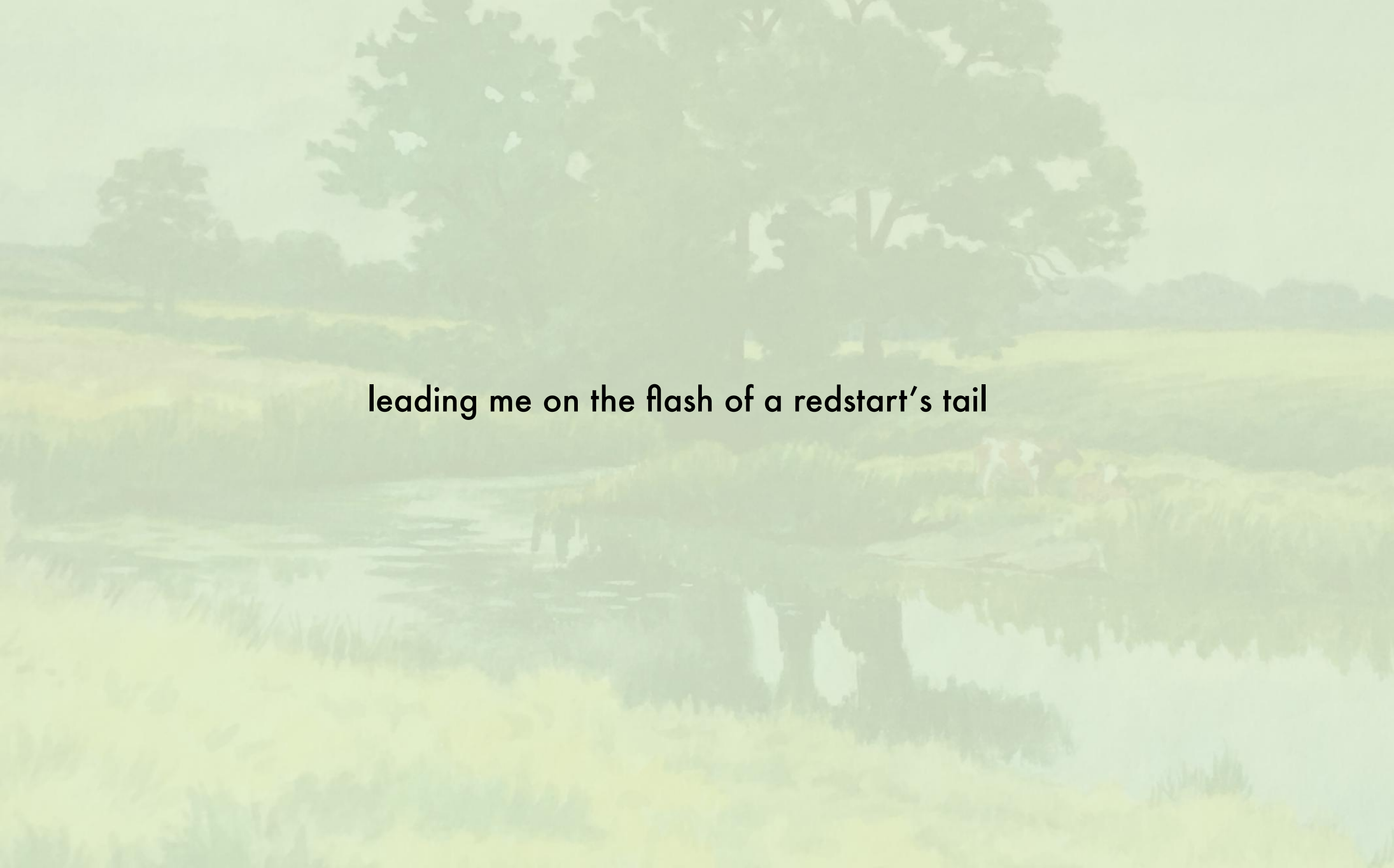
dense fog ...
drifting upstream
heron by heron



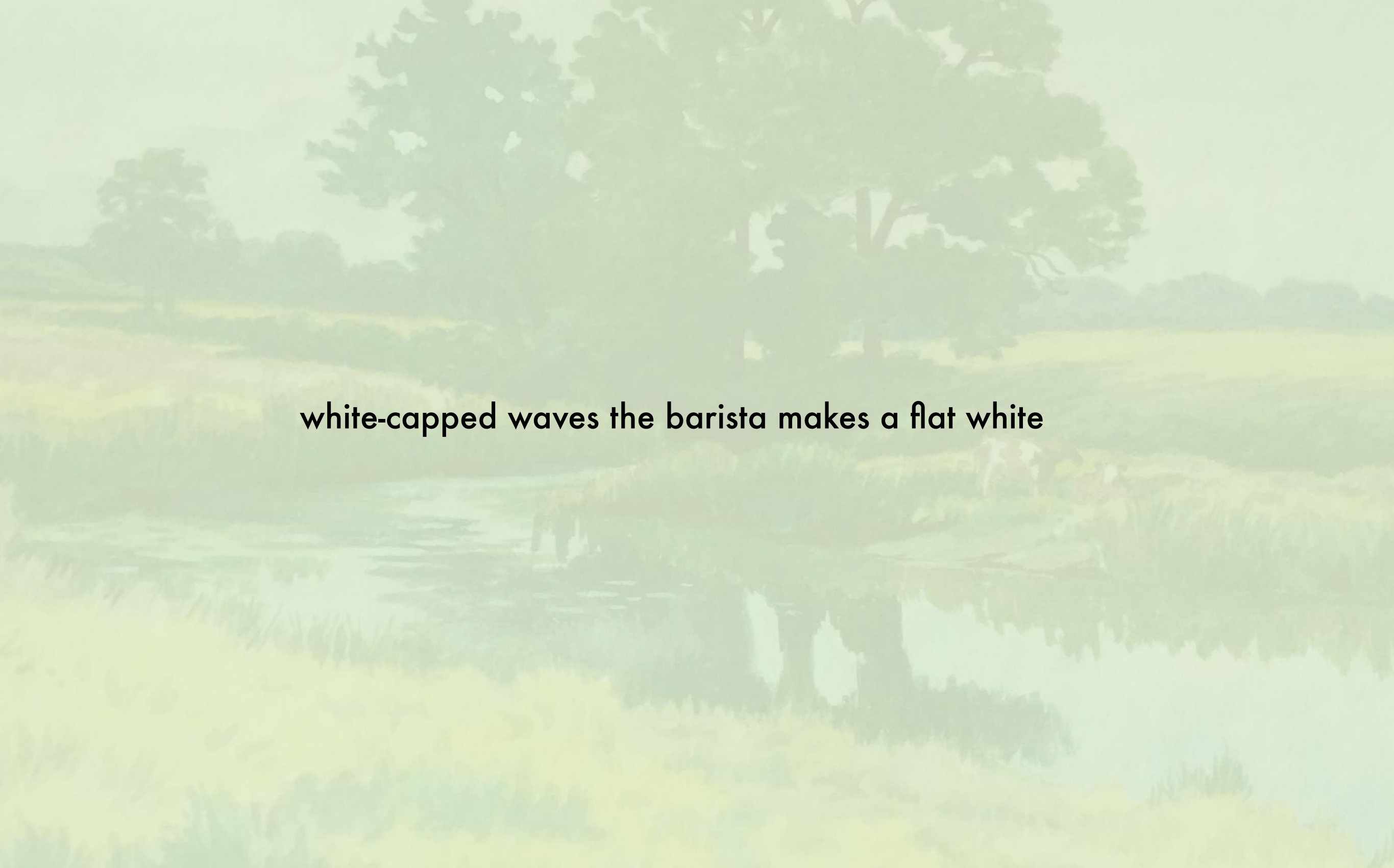
cherry blossoms the bridesmaids in hot pink



woken by a wren :: the morning after

A soft-focus, painterly landscape. In the foreground, a large, dark green tree with a thick trunk stands on the left. To its right, a calm body of water reflects the sky and the surrounding greenery. In the middle ground, a grassy field is dotted with several cows, some of which are white with brown spots. The background features rolling hills and more trees under a pale, hazy sky. The overall color palette is muted, with greens, yellows, and soft blues, giving it a dreamy, ethereal quality.

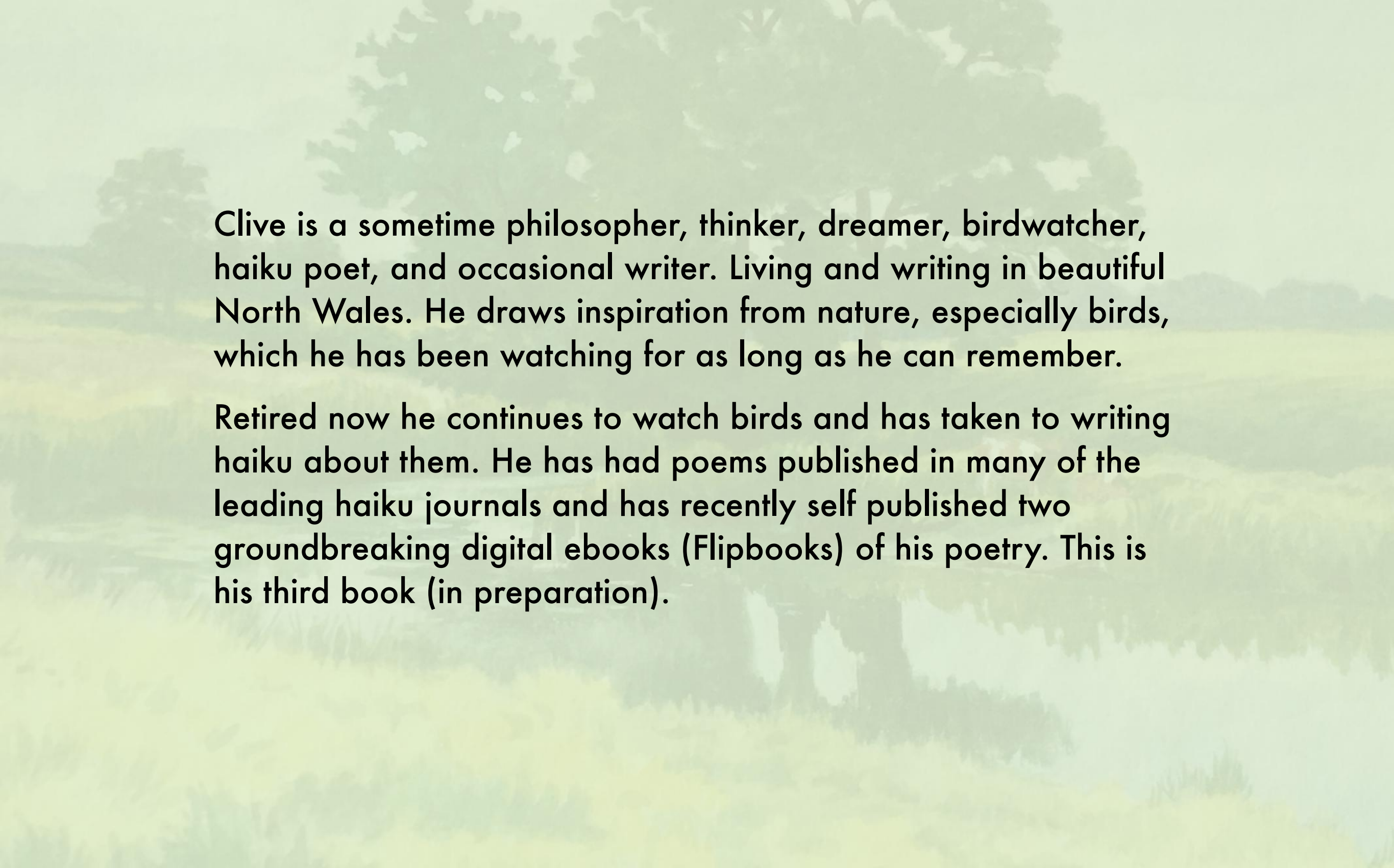
leading me on the flash of a redstart's tail

A painterly landscape scene. In the foreground, a large, dark, leafy tree stands on a grassy bank. To its left, a small pond reflects the sky and the tree. In the middle ground, a herd of cows is grazing in a field. The background features rolling hills and a hazy sky. The overall style is soft and impressionistic, with muted colors and visible brushstrokes.

white-capped waves the barista makes a flat white

A painting of a landscape. In the foreground, a large, dark, leafy tree stands on a grassy bank. To its left, a river flows, reflecting the sky and the tree. In the middle ground, a herd of cows is grazing on a grassy field. The background shows rolling hills and a distant horizon. The overall color palette is muted, with a lot of green and brown tones.

blood moon everything else is blue



Clive is a sometime philosopher, thinker, dreamer, birdwatcher, haiku poet, and occasional writer. Living and writing in beautiful North Wales. He draws inspiration from nature, especially birds, which he has been watching for as long as he can remember.

Retired now he continues to watch birds and has taken to writing haiku about them. He has had poems published in many of the leading haiku journals and has recently self published two groundbreaking digital ebooks (Flipbooks) of his poetry. This is his third book (in preparation).

Author photo (from a few years ago)



‘I’m older than I look ... and younger than I am’