Sharks' Teeth

By Kay Ryan

Everything contains some silence. Noise gets its zest from the small shark’s-tooth shaped fragments of rest angled in it. An hour of city holds maybe a minute of these remnants of a time when silence reigned, compact and dangerous as a shark. Sometimes a bit of a tail or fin can still be sensed in parks.

Kay Ryan, "Sharks’ Teeth" from The Niagara River. Copyright © 2005 by Kay Ryan. Used by permission of Grove/Atlantic, Inc. All rights reserved. Caution: Users are warned that this work is protected under copyright laws and downloading is strictly prohibited. The right to reproduce or transfer the work via any medium must be cleared with Grove/Atlantic, Inc.

Source: Poetry