

DAVID WINWOOD

## Sutton Courtenay, 1917<sup>1</sup>

Two boats motionless. Stiffly erect one woman tries to pull  
in the approaching swans with eager eyes. Straw hat

askew her male companion turns away and spies on what,  
in the other boat, the other woman is writing. The pond

smells of decay, but not the stench of slaughter.  
That's elsewhere. Elsewhere. That won't cross this water.

<sup>1</sup>*The Wharf, Sutton Courtenay*, painted by Sir John Lavery.