

Intelleble?

Days indistinguishable
From other days go by;
Thousands of them ^{are there}
~~Unquestioned, unbroken~~
Unopened in the past
Where we cannot go.
My unused days are there
Your unused days are there
Our unused days are there.

6/5/57



From

~~That Whitsun I was late getting away~~

~~That I was late that year getting away~~

That Whitsun I was late getting away: ^{From pique,}
~~And it was after lunch on Saturday~~ ^{(deliberately,}
~~And it was after lunch on Saturday~~ ^{falling back, no doubt)}
And ~~it was after lunch on Saturday~~
~~When my three-quarters-empty train~~
~~(~~the train~~ pulled out,~~
All windows ^{down} to let ^{the summer} in all ^{fourteen} windows

That Whitsun I was late getting away:

^{From pique,}
^(no doubt)
Maying ~~it~~ ~~was~~ after lunch on Saturday
When my three-quarters-empty train pulled out,
All windows down, all cushions ^{hot}, all sense
of ^{Regency} ~~urgency~~ ^{gone} with the ^{earlier} ~~crowds~~
~~of~~ ~~hurry~~ ~~gone~~ ~~with~~ ~~the~~ ~~morning~~ ~~crowds~~
~~of~~ ~~hurry~~ ~~gone~~ ~~with~~ ~~the~~ ~~morning~~ ~~crowds~~
~~The~~ ~~midday~~ ~~press~~ ~~described~~.
of ^{scattered} ~~hurry~~ ~~like~~ ~~the~~ ~~morning~~ ~~crowds~~
~~to~~ ~~the~~ ~~noon~~ ~~edition~~ ~~!~~
~~The~~ ~~midday~~ ~~papers~~ ~~kept~~ ~~for~~ ~~immense~~
Vertical summer brooded on the streets
We ran across, and then over the land

As if out on the end of ^{an} event
 Waving goodbye
 To all that would survive it. While I leant
 To watch, a second lot swam past, and I
 Could see it all again in different terms -
 The fathers with broad belts under their suits
 And scamy foreheads, mothers worse than fat,
 An uncle shouting smut, and then the perms,
 The nylon gloves and jewellery-substitutes,
 The lemons, mauves, and olive-ochres, that

~~Marked off the girls uncreally from the rest:
 Yes, from cafes,
 And banquet-rooms up yards, and bunting-dressed
 Coach-party annexes, the wedding-days
 Were breaking up, ~~and~~ coming to an end,
 At twenty five past ten at
 The bottles came and bowed, the flowers gave a bang,~~

Marked off the girls uncreally from the rest -
 Yes, from cafes,
 And banquet-rooms up yards, and bunting-dressed
 Coach-party annexes, the wedding-days
 Were coming to their ends. ~~How strange ~~it was~~~~
~~At the end of the line of ~~girls~~ ~~to~~ ~~pass~~ ~~them~~,
 and to ~~watch~~ ~~the~~ ~~line~~!~~



Marked off the girls uncreally from the rest:
 Yes, from cafes,
 And banquet-rooms up yards, and bunting-dressed
 Coach-party annexes, the wedding-days
 Were coming to their ends. All down the line
 They kept on ~~gathering~~. ~~How strange ~~it was~~~~
~~They ~~kept~~ ~~on~~ ~~gathering~~. ~~How~~ ~~strange~~ ~~it~~ ~~was~~~~
~~They ~~kept~~ ~~on~~ ~~gathering~~. ~~How~~ ~~strange~~ ~~it~~ ~~was~~~~
~~They ~~kept~~ ~~on~~ ~~gathering~~. ~~How~~ ~~strange~~ ~~it~~ ~~was~~~~
~~They ~~kept~~ ~~on~~ ~~gathering~~. ~~How~~ ~~strange~~ ~~it~~ ~~was~~~~
 To guess what they were ^{seeing} ~~doing~~ ^a ~~price~~
 Traditional success, the fathers saw

Marked off the girls uncreally from the rest:
 Yes, from cafes,
 And banquet-rooms up yards, and bunting-dressed
 Coach-party annexes, the wedding-days
 Were coming to their ends. ~~How strange ~~it was~~~~
~~They ~~kept~~ ~~on~~ ~~gathering~~. ~~How~~ ~~strange~~ ~~it~~ ~~was~~~~
~~They ~~kept~~ ~~on~~ ~~gathering~~. ~~How~~ ~~strange~~ ~~it~~ ~~was~~~~
~~They ~~kept~~ ~~on~~ ~~gathering~~. ~~How~~ ~~strange~~ ~~it~~ ~~was~~~~
~~They ~~kept~~ ~~on~~ ~~gathering~~. ~~How~~ ~~strange~~ ~~it~~ ~~was~~~~
 And who could guess,
 By ~~looking~~ ~~at~~ ~~their~~ ~~faces~~ ~~what~~ ~~it~~ ~~was~~
 Now going from them? ~~All~~ ~~the~~ ~~time~~ ~~the~~ ~~girls~~ ~~showed~~ ~~least~~ ~~all~~.
 The ~~father~~ ~~seemed~~ ~~to~~ ~~watch~~ ~~some~~ ~~great~~ ~~success~~
 That made them laugh. ~~The~~ ~~Mothers~~ ~~were~~ ~~strange~~,
 Miming ~~the~~ ~~funeral~~, a kind of happy funeral

~~That's~~ ~~secret~~, but the girls ~~stood~~ ~~strangely~~ ~~by~~,
 Their smiles caught in a stress