

## Brook

“At the pool where we used to swim / in Cooks Brook /  
not everyone had guts enough / to dive from the top  
ledge”

A small stream.

## Buoyant

“so always there was that moment / when you prayed for  
wings / then sailed arms outspread into the buoyant air”

(Of a liquid or a gas) able to keep something afloat.

## Daring

“you daringly defied the demons / who lived so terribly /  
in the haunted hours of your sleep.”

The quality of being brave and willing to take risks.

## Defy

“you daringly defied the demons / who lived so terribly /  
in the haunted hours of your sleep.”

To refuse boldly to obey or yield to.

## Engulf

“what you feel is something / impossible to describe / as  
the water parts like a wound / to engulf you / then closes  
just as quickly / in a white scar where you entered”

To surround and cover something or someone  
completely.

## Haunt

“you daringly defied the demons / who lived so terribly /  
in the haunted hours of your sleep.”

To cause repeated suffering or anxiety.

## Ledge

“At the pool where we used to swim / in Cooks Brook /  
not everyone had guts enough / to dive from the top  
ledge”

A flat surface that sticks out from a wall of rock.

## Leisurely

“following the streaks of sunlight / that lead you gasping  
to the surface / where you make your way / leisurely to  
shore / as though there had been nothing to it”

To do something in a relaxed way, without hurrying.

## Plunge

“one by one the brave few of us / would climb the cliff to the ledge / and stand poised / ready to plunge headfirst / into the dark water below”

To fall or jump suddenly from a high place.

## Poise

“one by one the brave few of us / would climb the cliff to the ledge / and stand poised / ready to plunge headfirst / into the dark water below”

Behaviour or a way of moving that shows calm confidence.