

Lucy Alexander

WHOLE

Their uncle told the wide eyed children
of the tiger in his Indian hotel;
leaping through the window
snuffling for her dinner,
and himself under the
mosquito net, so clean
and particular, that
the tiger passed him by.

Now his 87 year old niece
recalls the moral of
cleanliness, and wonders
if the tiger will leap
through her aging window
and swallow her,
smelling of life,
whole.