

ridiculing their marriage. We are reminded too of his fling with Diane Keaton, back again after Annie Hall, and how he, Isaac, doesn't know whether to stay with her or to leave, both of them isolated, needful and uncertain. Being in love in Manhattan gives way, really, to being in love with Manhattan – with the Guggenheim, Elaine's, Zabar's deli, Central Park, art movies and concerts, the street theatre, the changing light amongst the leaves and the moods of songs colouring all ideas of identity and relationships: "Sweet and Lowdown," "I Got a Crush on You," "Lady Be Good," Embraceable You," Someone to Watch Over Me" and "Strike Up the Band," an assembly of old favourites for feeling and for style. The cinematography is perfect. The softness and shine of black-and-white establishes the strains of a lasting love affair, the little man lovingly at home in his city, the dream real and sad, the past so close always to moments of the present.



Nadine Brown

AT FOURTEEN

At fourteen,
I turned barren paddocks into many shades of green.
I learnt to draw water from deep beneath the earth.
To dig trenches, to lay reticulation, to plant, to pick, to tend.

I walked behind a tractor on exhausted, indifferent land.
And there, in the fathomless heat,
We watched green shoots arise before our red tantrum faces.

I drank salt water and kept up with the men.
As far as the eye could see, we planted pipes and sprinklers.
And the thought, that people would eat their vegetables so effortlessly,
wore — me — out.

At fourteen
I walked home, after twelve hours.
My head full of black poly pipe thoughts.
Burning and thumping from inside out I laid my body
On the cold tiles.

And from the window all the paddocks looked like a giant, green prison,
With many well organised compartments.



Will Fraser

SPEAKING UP FOR THE LITTLE NIPPERS

I wonder
do
ants
dream
of wealth
 bigger crumbs
holidays
 no
 more
 picnics
freedom
 leaving
 the
 line
longevity
 avoiding
 walkers
immortality
 the
 big
 ant
do
ants
dream
it's hard to say for sure
but
I
imagine so.