

Renee Norman

When Geese Fly

the 11 o'clock news:

in a campground
a young 11-year-old girl
was

when geese fly in v's
they are like punctuation marks
stop your gaze
in the text of blue sky
catch the eye
with the possibilities

my daughter read
that when geese fly in formation
they leave a space in the line
for the geese that died

in the fall
when the geese fly south
when the children return to school
i will look for
the gaps in
the line

these gaps are like the words
i have crossed out of the lines
of this poem
xxxxxxxxxxxx
victims of my verbal gunshot
wham!
a word goes
a goose
a girl
all we hunters
making our marks
11-year-old commas
transform to periods
full stops