

Wilderness House Literary Review 13/3

Diane Webster

ROW BOAT ITSELF

The row boat's reflection
anchors itself to the water
by grasping oars underwater
and mimicking the rope
tied somewhere off shore.

Like a giant, ocean squid
the pseudo-twin twines
tentacles through floorboards
to prevent departure.

A thrown rock shatters
the umbilical picture
and the row boat
pulls away with a wave.