

A DAY IN THE COUNTRY

they wear light clothing
(the date on the border
below reads: JULY 51), and
they smile a little woodenly as
people before a camera often do.
but regarding this photograph
of my family, i detect
an irregularity: see how
they stand—mother, father, aunt,
uncle—they present their clear
outlines against the summer sky.
i am among them.
i possess their features,
and i wear their clothes.
but my gaze into the lens is
distracted, and at the edges,
my body is blurred.

— *Linda Pyke*