

CRYSTAL HURDLE

Milk

1  
Reaching into the fridge  
for the milk jug,  
comely Greer,  
limbs lanky  
fetching  
walks like a model  
with her sweating glass  
A long drink of water  
A beauty

Scott snorts  
She should wear a sign  
*I'm only eleven.*

2  
Children are so big  
and developed these days  
Why, girls in my Natalie's class  
are menstruating!  
Can you believe it?  
They say it's all the antibiotics in the milk  
and the hormones

*Milk, it does a body good*

3  
Billboard:  
Girl a Jo-Beth Williams or a young Brooke Shields  
Carton of milk, the requisite white mustache, the body a  
luscious hilly landscape beseeching  
"Drink! Come, lick me good"

4  
Plangent faces on milk cartons  
of little children lost  
computer graphic updates  
Michael Dunahee at eight, at twelve  
He'd be a young man now  
rigidity of cheekbones  
puppy fat falling  
the face elongated into an adulthood  
that never will