

ANNE COMPTON

MEN AND WOMEN, REMEMBERED

Anne Compton (1947-) was born in Bangor, Prince Edward Island. She earned a bachelor's degree from Prince of Wales College (now the University of Prince Edward Island) in 1969. She then moved to Toronto, where she earned a master's degree from York University in 1971. She eventually returned to the Maritimes and earned a doctorate from the University of New Brunswick in 1988. She then began publishing poems, which often reflected her upbringing on Prince Edward Island. The following poem was published in the summer 1985 issue and included in the collection *Opening the Island* (2002), which was short-listed for the Margaret and John Savage First Book Award and won the Atlantic Poetry Prize.

The cool rooms of summer houses
fern plants casting shadows
down a long hallway
sideboards and banisters
and the women, solid and moving.

And down in the dusty yard,
shoploft, well-house
pumproom. Words
unused, unsung in me
and the singing of the men.