

A Quiet Envy

the cormorant with
long pointed bill jerks
its black head all
around on its long skinny neck
to see everything before

suddenly
dipping headfirst under the
surface to
explore for food &
down it stays perhaps

more than a minute before
resurfacing a
hundred feet further down
the channel as
old Train the German shepherd watches

diligently from his belly on
the ramp in front of
his boathouse
for
years now Train watching

to catch & devour his
very first sea bird
years
of constant vigilance
admiring

the cormorant for doing that
which he cannot do himself
diving & staying a
full minute under water to
come back up with a

small eel or minnow in
its beak while Train
must wait for his
master to fill
his bowl

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