

The Two Ways

Martin Robertson

Jesus, digesting the meal Martha served,
pronounced that Mary's was the better part.
How like a man. Martha of course deserved
better than such a knife-twist in the heart.

Rapt Mary sat and drank all he could give.
Martha was tired and cross and so to blame.
(I speak as a fast-dyed contemplative,
but one not quite without a sense of shame.)