What I was wearing

was this:

from the top

a white t-shirt

cotton

this question

this answer

these details.

short-sleeved but my answer and round at the neck much awaited much anticipated

this was tucked into
a jean skirt
(also cotton)

seems flat somehow
given the rest of the details
of that night

ending just above the knees

and belted at the top

i was raped.

underneath all this
was a white cotton bra
and i wonder
and white underpants
what answer
(though probably not a set)
what details

would give comfort
on my feet could give comfort
white tennis shoes to you

the kind one plays tennis in my questioners and then finally

silver earrings, and lip gloss.

seeking comfort where
there is

this is what i was wearing alas
that day no comfort
that night to be found.
that fourth of july

in 1987. if only it were so simple

you may be wondering end rape
why this matters by simply changing clothes
or even how i remember

every item
in such detail
in such detail
it remember also
what he was wearing

that night
you see
even though
i have been asked this question
it's true
many times
that no one

it has been called to my mind
has ever asked.
many times

by Mary Simmerling