What I was wearing

was this:
from the top
a white t-shirt

this question
this answer
these details.

cotton

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
that day
no comfort
that night
to be found.
that fourth of july

in 1987.

if only it were so simple if only we could

you may be wondering

why this matters

or even how i remember

end rape

by simply changing clothes

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

you see

i have been asked this question

what he was wearing that night

even though

i have been asked this question

many times

it has been called to my mind

it's true

that no one

has ever asked.

many times

by Mary Simmerling