

21st January 2021

Section 1 – Produce a creative response which represents the nightmare-like opening of the novel.

‘For a while I could not enter,’
‘A padlock and a chain upon the gate.’
Forbid my way.

The lodge-keeper ‘had no answer’,
When I called desperately in my dream.
‘The lodge was uninhabited.’

‘No smoke came from the chimney,’
The barred windows gaped forlorn.
‘Manderley was silent.’

The drive was choked in grass and moss,
Trees threw out low branches.
Impeding progress.

On the other side of a muddied ditch,
A path led to a labyrinth.
Beneath a fallen tree.

Unnatural growth of a vast shrub,
Masking Manderley.
Manderley, secretive and silent.