

## MANUSCRIPTS

it's harder  
for poets  
who love  
to say the sweet things  
they feel  
for one another;  
instead they go home  
& write letters,  
or remember  
what they were  
thinking of saying  
& touch their mouths  
sensuously  
while they type  
a manuscript.

-- Ann Menebroker

Elk Grove CA

## THE WIDOW

She was an artist and always dated  
Older men because she felt they were  
Wiser, more mature and serious.

She married a man who was thirty years  
Her senior. When he died,  
She painted his portrait from memory  
At the wake. The painting had an uncanny  
Resemblance to her father.

## NAMES

When she married him,  
She wanted to keep her identity  
By retaining her last name.

The years passed and he died.  
She felt a part of him was still  
With her so she changed  
Her last name to his.

-- d. h. lloyd

Long Beach CA