

## Should Auld Acquaintance

This friend of mine ... who's  
not a friend. One of those  
things that grew too fast: we met;  
he'd read a book that I  
had heard of; I'd seen  
a play he nearly bought  
two tickets for; our wives  
both browse in stores; his dog  
likes our two kids -- so now  
it's every other week  
at his place or at ours. And I  
am running out of books  
I've heard of which he's read,  
and for some reason this guy,  
who never gets unkind  
or pushy or anything,  
diminishes me.

I sometimes think  
no problem is so small  
it can't be walked away from --  
which may be another way of saying  
that as soon as his wife  
hands that drink to me,  
I'm going to grin, pour it  
on his lap, grab my wife,  
and do a soft-shoe out the door.

### Etc.

Funny,  
the way my wife  
keeps after me  
for drinking beer,  
saying it gives me  
a pot belly,  
reminding me  
I won't look good  
in a bathing suit,  
and such  
when the only reason  
I drink the stuff  
each night is because  
I want it to help