

that though she'd been unceremoniously torn  
from her father's protection by a wicked ugly prince  
whose black horse had broken the wall her father  
being attacked without mercy and she had fallen  
victim to lust and rape and was now being held  
prisoner by the black prince while mourning  
the murder of her father she was still beautiful  
and more desirable than ever having become aware  
of the techniques of connubial connections  
and she promised wealth and her most exquisite favors  
to the man who would be brave enough  
to deliver her from her plight.

### Life Revisited

two ghosts haunt the water's edge  
remembering promises they made  
to revisit this exact spot  
love would wait for them  
water and grass would still be here  
and they flesh and laughter again

they lie down at the water's edge  
in the middle of the afternoon  
and wonder why they didn't make love  
fifty-odd years before

-- Ottone M. Riccio

Belmont, Massachusetts

In  
the land  
of the cod

### To a Cat Called Mouse

I  
- missed my cat  
so i wrote a verse  
to a cat called Mouse  
in a far-a-way house.  
Good cod ! How odd to  
find i've bean to Bos-  
ton when

another house  
avec bal:-con's in the  
corner of my mind (and  
almost a p o l o g i e s  
are due to M I S T E R  
CUMMINGS, e's are 2 )  
w h e r e g r a s s  
is green and C A T I S M O u s e .