

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
sensibly
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