

## **Restaurant Miff**

An old couple,  
both over 80,  
look at menus.  
He mumbles.

She scolds, "Oh,  
you're always  
disappointed."

Argument now....

An argument  
60 years bitter--  
stern faces,  
trembling hands.

How many lifetimes  
will they require  
to smile, care, give,  
feel smoother?

Love is nearer  
to them than the  
germ of an instant,  
yet they fight on for  
fleeting rightness.

Old antipathies  
butt their heads,  
bam bam bam,  
straining old hearts  
that do well just  
to find their next  
beat.