

1987

## His Photograph

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## His Photograph

(for Anne)

After he puts the last dish away,  
this friend who used to be my lover  
asks me to spend the night.  
But I do not want a casual affair.

He understands; he has something  
to show me in the bedroom. I stand  
in the doorway as he goes to a drawer,  
takes out a photograph.

I am ten years younger. I sit  
in a sexy pose: legs, cleavage, enough  
pout to be sultry, not childish.  
He returns the photograph as I leave.

When I am gone, he will take it out  
again and remember when  
he was ten years younger.  
He will kiss my body, kiss his image

of me. And when he has grown tired of this,  
when he has grown tired of looking,  
he will go to that drawer  
one more time and put me away.

*Debra Benko*