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## A Portrait of My Parents

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### **Cover Page Footnote**

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Their children are gone  
stolen from them by  
first steps, loose teeth,  
driver's licenses, and  
graduation robes.

They shuffle through the house lost,  
knowing that they must  
again find each other, themselves,  
without the looking glass of  
unmade beds and Kool-Aid stains  
on the counter.

She remarks that everything  
is smaller: the laundry, the meals,  
even the mail.  
He just smiles, but thinks about  
how it all seems  
so much bigger.

--Stacy Wittmeyer