Mrs. Rose Regrets

The woman truly
Had a hard life
Her parents married too young
And had too many children
Too soon

They fought all night
Every night
She never slept well
In that house

As she grew to adulthood
She vowed never to fight
With her husband
She wanted love
Acceptance and tranquility
Something she sought
But never found
In her parents' home

She battled with her father
To attend college
He relented ultimately
Though had no confidence
In her likelihood
Of becoming
An educated or
Professional woman
With a future
Other than marriage

Still it was unusual
For a woman of her time
To matriculate
At a university
She was
Needless to say
Elated

She achieved great
Academic and social success
Growing self-assured
Her confidence expanded
But sadly at the end of
Her sophomore year
She left the university
To marry whom she believed
Was the love of her life

In time she learned
As so many do
Her benevolent prince
Was more of a controlling narcissist
A pathological liar
A man who
Known to all but her
Was a serial philanderer
Almost from the time
Of their wedding

She wanted love
Acceptance and tranquility
Something she sought
But never found
In her parents' home
Nor was she able
To provide it
For her own children

As the years flowed
Now accepting that she had married
A very flawed man
She foolishly fought to gain
His love
His admiration
His respect
To hold on
To him despite
Living with constant humiliation
Making her children
Secondary in a life
Filled with brutality
And neglect

One day
Her prince died
She never spoke of him
After that
Although her face
Would brighten
Whenever she talked
About her university years

Oh how Mrs Rose regrets
That she never achieved
All or even some of what
She had hoped for
So very long ago

Poor poor
Mrs Rose

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