

UNREQUITED LOVE

Elizabethada A. Wright, Ph.D.*

Associate Professor, Department of English and Communications, Rivier College

It was Valentine's Day.
We traveled
to learn the secrets
of Stonehenge. He lead
The way, telling stories
of sacrifice, Arthur's kingdom, and knights with brave deeds.

The stones loomed.

It was one of the last years
when tourists like us could walk
between the rocks
to listen.
The sun shone overhead as it had
for millenniums.
Only a wisp of a cloud darkening the scene.

Others there were awed.
All the majesty
and
silence
and
seeing the celebrity stones.
He thought little, dancing a jig
As he told the tales.

I wore my vintage mink
thinking I was grown up and knowing the secrets
of the stones,
leading the way, because now I knew
Him.

But the stones only yield so much.

It is the living and the crying
that lets me take
the clichéd blood
from a stone.

* **Dr. ELIZABETHADA A. WRIGHT** is Associate Professor of English and Communications at Rivier College. She has a Ph.D. from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, an M.A. from Columbia University and a B.A. from Hamilton College. A rhetorical theorist, she writes and publishes on collective memory, material culture, as well as nineteenth-century women's rhetoric and education. Before joining academia, she worked in the professional theater, and still participates in the theatre business to some degree. She is also active in her community and has published poetry.