

# LONGEVITY

*Francine L. Trevens*

Longevity should prove a greater boon  
To woman than to man. It will provide  
The time when serving others steps aside  
And she at last may dance to her own tune.  
Outliving spouse and parents; with her daughters  
And sons grown, smaller passions past,  
She'll be finally fully free at last  
Of daily musts and shoulds and you oughtas

She can consecrate to art her days  
Dissolve the outer world in private vision  
Give birth to all the genius blocked inside  
Not care if others disapprove her ways  
No longer be dispersed by long division  
Of herself—she can create with pride.

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