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**My Students Say My Face
No Longer Pleases**

by William P. Robertson

My students say my face no longer pleases.

Hair fine as dandelion fuzz fringes

a creased, vein-bulging brow.

A scar erupts from overgrown eyebrows,

and moles pepper my temples.

Gray eyes are imprisoned by wrinkles.

Sideburns grow wild as unpruned brambles,

while blonde and gray chin stubble

appears an hour after shaving.

Only the mouth remains youthful.

Sharp white teeth clean in a hard jaw

ready to chew up my detractors.