

WHEN THEY LAY DOWN

They didn't close their eyes when they lay down
as if looking forward to a long sleep.
My father rose for work every day hung over.
My old mother gardened at night with a headlamp.

As if looking forward to a long sleep,
my stepfather lay down under his car.
My old mother gardened at night with a headlamp.
At the end, my parents were so tired.

My stepfather lay down under his car.
He didn't realize it would slip down on him.
At the end, my parents were so tired.
Some days my father forgot his socks.

He didn't realize it would slip down on him.
My father, on his knees, had a baffled look.
Some days he even forgot his socks.
My mother couldn't feel her whole left side.

My father, on his knees, had a baffled look.
He rose for work every day hung over.
My mother couldn't feel her whole left side.
They didn't close their eyes when they lay down.