

Adjustment

By Jim Tomkins

Once sexual beings drift
a gentle pat replaces a caress
holding hands on a walk
a struggle
pheromones no longer elicit
a warm response
there was a frisson once
now gone online
changing doses of hormones
bring neutrality
the male imperative wanes
the female receptiveness shrinks
sparks that once lit fires
have dwindled to embers
and someday to ash
There is a regret tempered
by thoughts of former blazing times
when passion flashed
intimacy entwined
ecstasy ensued
enough indeed
to embrace
the tenderness that enduring
Love
confirms