

---

# Pro Rege

---

---

Volume 35  
Number 2 *Fine Arts Issue 2006*

Article 3

---

December 2006

## Not Jealous Lovers

Bill Elgersma  
*Dordt College*, [bill.elgersma@dordt.edu](mailto:bill.elgersma@dordt.edu)

Follow this and additional works at: [https://digitalcollections.dordt.edu/pro\\_rege](https://digitalcollections.dordt.edu/pro_rege)

---

### Recommended Citation

Elgersma, Bill (2006) "Not Jealous Lovers," *Pro Rege*: Vol. 35: No. 2, 5.  
Available at: [https://digitalcollections.dordt.edu/pro\\_rege/vol35/iss2/3](https://digitalcollections.dordt.edu/pro_rege/vol35/iss2/3)

This Poetry is brought to you for free and open access by the University Publications at Digital Collections @ Dordt. It has been accepted for inclusion in Pro Rege by an authorized administrator of Digital Collections @ Dordt. For more information, please contact [ingrid.mulder@dordt.edu](mailto:ingrid.mulder@dordt.edu).

# Not Jealous Lovers

---

*Bill Elgersma*

They hang in the closet  
neat rows by colour and style

Like old girlfriends.

No, not petulant,  
They quietly smirk  
relegated to an end  
where next replaced.  
—space for something new  
All the while knowing,  
Who lost and who gained  
Once so close, skin to skin  
a sense of confidence and comfort.

They know,  
unless through wear  
they did not outgrow,  
Instead outgrown,  
and so the new is bigger  
larger, a wider version.

But middle age is petty  
self-conscious, nostalgic, and wistful,  
equivocal and self-indulgent  
and so they hang.

Passively on the part of the hangee  
Hopefully on the part of the hanger  
that once again,  
old relationships  
will become new.