

## Once

The straight backed  
wooden chair, across  
sits straight backed  
empty, watching  
coffee cup rings staining.  
Six times held,  
that guest and  
three times the other,  
my favorites,  
with feet touching  
and tongues talking  
till rings staining  
from neglect, no,  
from time spent  
on better things.  
There sits cold  
before the finish,  
slowing sips  
to stalled salutations.  
I'm your favorite, too.