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## *Shades of Green*

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# Shades of Green

by Catherine McCraw

When I'm an old woman,  
I shall wear green—  
not pear, nor lime,  
for those would sour  
my pale, lined face.

Not grass-blade green, for that's  
a spring and summer shade,  
nor shamrock, too gaudy,  
nor apple, too tart.

Not emerald, that's for the long, cool years  
of middle age, when the sun is slowly  
gliding westward.

Maybe teal, a green dipped in  
the shade of blue that edges snow,  
portending winter chill.

Or, perhaps sea green,  
a pastel ocean lapping at the shore,  
calling me to cast my boat  
into the deep, slice the water  
with the oars, and row toward  
the Technicolor twilight.