Poem

Henry Ricker
College of Saint Benedict/Saint John's University
Poem
A man runs for office and wins
He carries real weight on his shoulders, the burden is heavy
Later, on his deathbed, he looks to me and asks,
“Why am I unhappy?”

A woman, married to a fine gentleman, has born four sons
She raises these boys into men, and comforts her busy husband
People say the kindest things about her, (with a twinge of sympathy)
One day they find her with her wrists slit open in the bathtub

A man runs away from home
He is a child but also a man, he knows so little
A family going for a hike finds the boy’s starved body
His sole possession (a journal) reads, “I didn’t know the trees were so beautiful”.

A woman spends most days at home, reading
She is old and her time is short
One day, she thinks about all of the things she never did
The list is long and she laughs

Henry Ricker
Collegeville, MN