

2004

The Poet-Teacher

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Recommended Citation

Culross, Michael. "The Poet-Teacher." *The Iowa Review* 34.3 (2004): 190-191. Web.
Available at: <https://doi.org/10.17077/0021-065X.S941>

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The Poet-Teacher

1.

Outside these walls
one sees him rarely,

at dusk, perhaps,
walking to his car

or slowly
driving by,

about to disappear
while the silly students

unaware, consider
only each other.

2.

Where does he go?
Will he, once

outside of town
follow a winding road

through a secret wood
and then, reaching

an almost Gothic
house at last,

be seen
from a lad's window

or met by
his faithful dogs?

3.
Imagine him, then
after a quiet dinner

of some small hen
and a glass

or two of wine,
slipping off

to his room, where
for one long moment

he sits
at a fine piano

then intensely,
but gently, plays.

—*Michael Culross*