

“The Gift-Wrap & The Jewel”
by Wanda B. Goines

I looked in the mirror and what did I see,
but a little old lady peering back at me
With bags and sags and wrinkles and wispy white hair,
and I asked my reflection,
How did you get there?"

You once were straight and vigorous and now you're stooped and weak,
when I tried so hard to keep you from becoming an antique
My reflection's eyes twinkled as she solemnly replied,
you're looking at the gift wrap and not the jewel inside
A living gem and precious, of unimagined worth
Unique and true, the real you, the only you on earth
The years that spoil your gift-wrap with other things more cruel,
should purify and strengthen, and polish up that jewel
So focus your attention on the inside, not the out
On being kinder, wiser, more content and more devout
Then, when your gift-wrap's stripped away your jewel will be set free,
to radiate God's glory throughout eternity