

# For the young couple in the stairwell passed on my way to teaching Medieval World Literature

*by* Ed Higgins

I have  
been you  
years before  
of course. Your  
eye-laughter  
and leaning in  
toward each  
other caressing,  
then your  
quick kisses  
barely noticing  
me passing  
upstairs to  
my next  
class hour  
to examine  
courtly love.  
Hopefully setting  
the concept  
straight with  
how in Dante  
Palo and Francesca  
reading of  
the infatuated

Lancelot alone  
with Guinevere——  
when they  
fell all  
trembling to  
one another's  
mouth, kissing  
So too  
Palo and  
Francesca when  
their doomed  
eyes met  
that fateful  
day, trembling  
in likewise  
passion, read  
no more  
that day.

