

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.

