

OLD MAN

In your portrait
We see an old man.
It is hard to imagine you
lying on your back
in the Sistine Chapel
not resting but painting.
Yet easy to imagine those hands
expertly carving slabs of stone.
Nearly every church in Rome
has your work on display.

But your resting place in Florence
is not worthy of you.
Where is the majesty and grace
your life's work is due?

Since your lifetime
has there been anyone
who can bring a lump of marble to life
with veins throbbing in its limbs?
Only you Michelangelo
Only you.

If you could see your tomb today
what would you say?

