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Carrying Them

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"Go angry into the night,"*
He read thundering
at our father's funeral.

Angry at him for going,
As he had been angry to go,
To stop doing.

The April before, I came
To see him starting to die,
And left carrying him with me,
Half-dead.

Twenty years later I went again,
And saw her so old,
"Go away!" she said in her
mindless, ancient way.

And I went away carrying
them both with me.

* Dylan Thomas