Something I Noticed Recently

A woman who comes to prison

To visit her man carries a

Certain look about her, legs splayed

Under the table that separates them,

Hooking her ankle behind his.

OVER

Contentment washes her face as she

Takes ownership of her man.

None of that diffidence an unsure woman

Telegraphs at other times, other places.

Just the take-it-for-granted

Certainty that she is where she

Belongs, with whom she belongs,

Even if soon she'll have to leave

Him behind to face a lonely

Bed for as many years as it takes.

Harlan Richards May 22, 2017