

Xtreme Makeover For Academics

By Mary Lynn Broe

Check out the pose:
Arms out, gentled, supplicant
Repositioned (y)ears
tilting toward the tenure transition
Stronger, less defiant chin
softened by battles fought, but
not worth it.
Liposuctioned venom
Those love handles of the body vindictive.
Souls enlarged
Brows lifted
Smiles, for once, connected.

A personal trainer works the lumpen new compassion
Wardrobe experts shop for a bright cloak of generosity
This is the kind of cosmetic makeover only those
Wealthy of spirit can afford.

O, sweet danse of laser, knife and scalpel
Slice into all that benign inhumanity.