
At Home

Jon Garrison

A second-story sauna – cracked plaster,
century-old musk, settled dust.
Capricious commode, mildewed grout,
fickle switches, haggard wood-work.
Sagging walls, peeling shower caulk,
scuffed vinyl tile, sink-faucet rust.
Tarnished brass knobs on double-panel doors,
busted latches atop drafty panes.
Pale pine planks creak and crack,
three radiators belch and grunt.
Earthen hues cloak lead paint,
built-in oak shelves ache and bow.

At home, surrounded by so much beauty,
it's hard to find any one thing
ugly.