

Hummmmm -- twenty-four years? Is it possible? And there will be a
twenty-fifth! Maybe we are making a long life record for a Reading
Conference.

4:30

Patricia M. Fergus
University of Minnesota
Minneapolis, Minnesota

For

Five hours

Thirty minutes

Twenty-two seconds

I

Prodded brains,

Squeezed hearts,

Twisted wills.

Now

Silence floods

The tiny cubicle;

Knotted nerves untied

I

Slip away,

Thoughts burdening,

Spirits burgeoning.