Endgame

When you come to consider the endgame,
there is the problem of the old woman.

She must be punished for she has been evil,
malodorously evil, and her influence has been malign.

Sensibly you have kept her mostly offstage
but her vapours have leached throughout

like the odour of a mushroom factory
or the miasma from the treatment ponds.

But now, as all else is being cleaned up,
she remains a stain to be dealt with.

You must face her as she must face herself.
You must stare at her face in the mirror.

She must confront what she has become,
reflect upon what you have made of her.

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