

## ALTERING THE LESSON PLAN

*Scott Samuelson—Department of English*

No chance screech of fingernail on board,  
no moment of not knowing the answer  
could rival that look of surprise,  
hurt, and inadequacy as there before twenty-five  
students, almost like a performance  
to make an important point,  
he grabbed his forearms, his heart gave way,  
and like old knowledge suddenly dawned again,  
death, that master teacher, shone on his face,  
and they saw and knew as he slumped  
to the floor, his white hair only slightly  
disheveled, that this was a moment  
they would never unlearn.