

**Wilderness House Literary Review 7/1**

*Jane Blanchard*

**Mixed Doubles in Franconia**

Across the road  
from the clapboard inn,  
a ball is served  
on a clay court  
and returned by a wife  
who outruns her husband  
to beat all opponents.

Across the road  
in the clapboard inn,  
dinner is served  
on linen cloth  
but disdained by a girl  
who allows her brother  
to win points with parents.

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### Remains

Emily of Amherst,  
fearing much the worst,  
rightly left her best  
locked up in a chest.

Never would she see  
perfect poetry  
picked at by a fly  
once she had to die.