Grandma and Grandpa: Real People

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(sigh) Goodbye!  
One more velvet one to gather dust on the shelf.  
The beautiful discarded for the practical! Too 
bad the trade-in value on dreams, toward reality, 
is so low this year.  
Well... that's THE GAME!  
Guess I'd better get back to work.

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GRANDMA AND GRANDPA: REAL PEOPLE/ Karen Gernant

They were real:

He, with his "Jiminy cricket" when told 
of our escapades; with his shiny, 
bald head--still demanding 
hairstyles; with his cane and 
slow, sure walk; with his 
quiet understanding.

She, with her every-ready cookies 
and candy; with silvery hair 
touched with brown; with her 
tender care of plants and 
flowers... and kids; with her 
sweet, friendly smiles, her easy laughs.

Oh, they were real; they were good... 
and when they left, 
my fourteen years cried: Why?

No answer came... not then, 

but time has told me-- 
told me that they led full lives; 
that they had done their jobs, and, 
having done them well, 
deserved a peace and rest.

Time has told me.  
They were real.

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