

Advanced Maternal Age
Second Place Poetry 2004

Blonde helmet hair, she sits proud. The oldest mom
I have examined – 43—“I missed
my period took three pregnancy tests
all negative, went on a cruise to Turks and Caicos,

a mom’s thing we do you know, each winter,
just us girls. And a young Mexican waiter
said ‘You carrying something there?’ and he
put his hand on my belly and Daisy

my friend gave me the strangest look, staring
at my stomach and I threw up right there.”

Joanna Brown MD, Brown University/Memorial Hospital of Rhode Island