

# Taking Each Other In

JACKIE TRYTTEN

A few of my friends and I don't have children, and we talk about living together when we get old. Maybe it will be *taking each other in*. I can bake and cook, and even if I don't like to do them, I'd take my turns washing dishes. One of us will drive the others to the library and to our appointments and to buy groceries. We'll go to poetry readings, and we'll take walks in the parks along the little lakes, and watch films at the independent theaters together. We can give ourselves a name like we did when we used to go out to happy hour. Then we had OFA meetings. "Out Fooling Around," we said to co-workers and mothers and sisters. It was the sanitized version of "Out Fucking Around" we used among ourselves.

I had a friend who said she'd do the dishes for me when we were old, but she died when we were forty-four. That was the first crack in my plan.

