

Still

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Purring slowly, contently
The cat lies curled on
His old lady's lap, her hand
Laid delicately on the soft
Hairs of his back.

The woman,
Frail, old, small,
Found the cat
Abandoned, deathly, matted.
The care she had
The love
Was all that mattered
To the loyal creature.

A slight twitch of a muscle
And her hand slips off.
The cat peeks one eye open
And closes it again,
Sleep overcoming his tired
Body.

The purring was rhythmic,
The breathing deep.
His sigh of contentment
Fluttered the small hairs
On the arm of his old
Lady.

But it didn't tickle.

The hand, now next
To his head, is silent.
No warmth.
No pulse.