

# *Sonnet Scroll*

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## **Charming Young Woman**

By Robin Helweg-Larsen

Charming young woman with some half-baked tale  
of having formed an online math school for  
Malawi (start-up; try to find, you'll fail):  
and now you're married in El Salvador—  
husband's still there because he has to stay  
with the two dogs while you're in the US  
for months with Dad, then friends in the UK . . .  
I doubt you. CIA's a better guess,  
or MI6; or, more romantic, you're  
a good con artist, global jewel thief—  
nothing in these islands is past belief.  
I just regret I'm (even in my dreams)  
too old, too short, too married, and too poor  
to be of interest to your lovely schemes.