Stephen Robertson

For Robert Graves

'How naked go the sometime nude.'

Robert Graves, The Naked and the Nude

For Robert Graves, the naked and the nude
were chalk and cheese; so what would he have made
in twenty-ten, of all the flesh reviewed
in magazines, on billboards high displayed,
each model posed in languid attitude,
in birthday suit and little else arrayed?
I think he'd add a note to his remark—
in truth, how cheesy is the sometime chalk.

This poem is reprinted from Slanting Lines, the website of the poems of Stephen Robertson, at https://www.slacktide.site/slanting_lines/