

## Hurting

By Judith R. Merz

I am hurting.  
Do you care?  
I am hurting.  
Do you dare ...  
To walk beside me for this mile?  
To sit here near me for this while?

I'm untethered, floating free,  
Wondering who is really me...  
Wondering what I've really done...  
Wondering who I've really won...  
Wondering if this time I'll break.  
I am hurting:  
Endless ache.

Are you here  
To say my name  
And to love me just the same  
As I have loved you  
In *your* dark, untethered days?  
Are you here to hear my plea  
And to bring me back to me  
As I helped you once  
To find your way to you?

I am hurting.  
Do you dare?  
I am hurting.  
Do you care?  
I am hurting ...  
Will you now be here for me?