



AS YOU PASSED BY ME

as you passed by me
lying
with nothing beautiful about me
helpless
caught in my sin
like a beast in a trap
you looked at me --
dark water with the distant stars
of deep love reflected
in all the calm of tenderness --
you didn't even have a chance to speak
they needed you elsewhere to quickly
but in your wake you left me
quickenened into knowing
by that glance
my dignity in being loved by you

Ralph Wright, O.S.B.