



## *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.*