

Swim

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Novak is a second-year student at Starr King School. This poem was written in August 2004.

Swim along with me,
Just for a little while,
For I am weary.
I could use a friend
In these deep waters.
Cold is the stone without the sun.
Bitter are the tears wept alone.

Swim with me.
I am sinking and don't want to drown.
I have forgotten how to breathe,
My lungs ache with pain.

You say that you are drowning too?
I am not surprised.
The cold wind blows around us all
The ocean's great waves
Knock a body down sometimes,
Sucking our souls
Into whirlpools of despair.

Swim with me.
Perhaps our hearts will beat together,
To find a rhythm pulsing slow,
The gentle current of grace and hope
That will surely lead us to the shore.