

## When You Meet Someone Deep in Grief

Slip off your needs  
and set them by the door.

Enter barefoot  
this darkened chapel

hollowed by loss  
hallowed by sorrow

its gray stone walls  
and floor.

You, congregation  
of one

are here to listen  
not to sing.

Kneel in the back pew.  
Make no sound,

let the candles  
speak.

Patricia McKernon Runkle