

## *See This Child*

*See this child before you  
wounded  
vulnerable  
changed  
. . . the child of yesterday gone forever.  
Who will really look at this child?  
Is it easier to assume  
he will emerge unscathed  
than to face the turmoil with him?  
Who will step into the road  
before this child . . .  
laden with mountains and valleys,  
potholes and detours?  
Who will walk a bit of his journey with him?  
Who will offer some temporary shelter  
from the storms that rage around  
and within this child?  
Who will open doors that this child  
cannot see through his pain?  
Who will listen to what this child  
is really saying  
when he is belligerent  
when he is too shy to speak  
when his laughter masks his fears?  
Who will help this child to recognize his successes?  
and give him the courage to step  
beyond his failures with dignity?  
Who will be with this child  
on the other side of healing  
as he recognizes his growth  
and acceptance?*

From "Death and the Classroom" – reprinted with permission by Griefwork of Cincinnati.