

Had You been spared

Do you recall that moment when we tarried
Outside the school with our son his first day?
His grin was big as the pack he carried.
With anxious hearts we watched him walk away.

I tried to probe the thoughts that made me worry.
It wasn't clear, but all at once I knew--
The sense was fear that people, in their hurry,
Might not see and love him as we do.

Now you are gone, and through eyes that still love you
I see others who've been left behind.
As though it's me who's guarding from above you,
I watch and hope that people will be kind.

Had it been me to cross and you to tarry
With anxious heart I'd watch from up above.
I'd try to whisper to all "Please be wary.
She's very fragile, handle her with love."

Had you been spared to walk this earth without me
I wonder what your view might be.
If others' pains would make you think about me
And you'd reach out and treat them tenderly.

I hope that I, through eyes that now see clearly,
View all the people that I meet each day
Aware that somewhere, someone loves them dearly
And prays that others help them on their way.

Francis Leany
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