

## **Don't**

From Different Shades of Desire and Suffering  
By Bradford W. Tilden

Don't cry because I don't need to drown today.  
Don't speak because my silent eyes are speaking  
To you, my love, to you.  
And every time you speak, I listen,  
Even when the words hurt.  
And every time you weep, I am weeping too.  
I weep for you, my love, for you.

Don't turn because I don't want to see your back today.  
Only when we're making love.  
Don't walk away because alone is what I was,  
Without you, my love, without you.  
And when you turn I turn myself into a stone.  
And when you go, I fly with the flock of the ravens.  
I follow you, my love, I follow you.

After soreness steals the passion and sweat is sweetest yet,  
After each promise, each piece of tape and every fight,  
After the first and last oppression almost severed what we  
    have,  
After me and after you, after each sob, and every whimper,  
I am there for you, my love, I am there for you.  
But if you choose to leave today, I'll quietly fold up in your  
    attic,  
Because without you I am without, and being without, I would  
rather be naught.