

## DEAF SENTENCE

I am deaf  
for shouting by others, a whispered excuse,  
for embarrassing noises attacking  
by surprise  
for unintelligible broadcasting messages,  
for raving words once part of me  
like butterflies in my belly.

Your complaint doesn't reach me.  
My unutterable grief is not being heard or  
caught because connections get lost  
and words are not understood.

When deaf you're locked in silence  
and - unintentionally - put aside.

Good thing, it's really quiet and still.

But ... I can see and smell and feel  
I can read and write to you.  
I can't hear what you say but  
I can understand what I did to you and  
you did to me over and over again  
year after year.

We muddle on in silence.

