

# Lost

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This pair  
surely older than  
those far hills stood out  
with deacon-black clothes,  
severe hats, and the quiet  
born from lives  
of work and pain  
and certain pleasure.

In the dull green corridor  
one stood silent by his  
stricken brother, his twin,  
now alone more  
than before he was born.

Gurney brother stared,  
silent to all except the ceiling.  
Standing brother bereft  
in his stillness,  
king of his fields was lost  
in the dark corridor.

In that first week  
of hospital mortality  
I rushed by,  
my innocence  
shutter-click stopped  
by the Kings' gaze.

I wanted to be where  
he was looking;  
out of that darkest corridor  
to the morning when  
I could stand with him

in those bright hills  
and hear him speak  
of work and pain  
and certain pleasure.

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