

## *I am Sick*

*I am sick.*

Do not mourn for me.

God has not yet gathered me up into his fold

I have not yet left my friends and my family behind

My voice may still be heard and this life is not yet silenced.

*I am sick.*

Do not pity me.

Pity is for the mindless and the hopeless

I still think, I still know and am not unaware of my world

Inside I am still a King, still a child of God.

*I am sick.*

Do not feel sorry for me.

Save your sorrow for the homeless and the hungry,

For the drug addicted wretch, for the abused child, the beaten wife

These storms do not punish me day after day.

*I am sick.*

Understand me.

If I don't answer the phone it is because I cannot, not because I despise your voice

If I am unreliable it is because my body itself has become unreliable to me

If I cry, it is my own pain, my own suffering, it will pass with time.

*I am sick.*

Love me.

I need to hear about your life, my friend, for your stories inspire me.

Your love and friendship, your companionship, these are my elixirs.

Remind me that I am still wanted, that life goes on, and that it is interesting.

*I am sick.*

But I am not dead.