

With Her

Without her, I stand alone,
Cautiously — hesitantly approaching the world
An unsure conqueror —
Fearful of fear, loneliness,
Not belonging or connecting to anyone, any place, or anything

With her, my strength erupts
That internal will to win, move forward,
Succeed in a world of traps, challenges, tests of all kinds
With her, I am a conqueror of me.

With her, is comfort, a resting place
A haven to relax, recoup, grow stronger
With her, is a touch, a look, a smile, a friend, a home
Where I am anchored, grounded, connected
Where I feel alive —
Giving my life meaning and purpose
A place from which to venture out into the world
Enabling me to overcome and persist
Feeding an innate need for belonging

When I didn't have her,
My life felt like endless wandering,
Like a lost soul looking for its resting place

Coming Home, Oprelle Publications (finalist in poetry contest)
Inside My Mind, Wipf and Stock Publishers
Covenant Bonds, Voice and Virtue Literary Magazine