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## The Betrayal

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My wife  
My partner  
Though I do not always treat her so

The Betrayal  
*Douglas Calder*

We should traverse life together  
Yet I fight her  
Even when she sees the way  
And I do not

We should be a team  
Yet we are often adversarial  
I wonder why that is  
Yet the reason looks back at me  
From the bathroom mirror

We should have trust  
Yet I have done things  
To destroy that trust

She stands by me  
Even though I do not deserve it  
I must make amends  
To restore that which  
Can still be salvaged

I must rebuild  
That which has been torn down  
That which I have torn down

I marvel at the fact  
That I am allowed  
This opportunity  
To redeem myself

But my wife  
Is a good and trusting person  
Even though I have  
No right to expect it  
She is patient with me  
This is why I do love her so

She feeds me  
She provides me shelter  
I owe the very presence of  
The clothes on my back  
To her generosity

I need no other but her  
Yet I strayed from the path  
For months I was away  
When I did return  
Her anger was a sight to behold  
Yet love wins out

A strained love to be sure  
Yet love it is  
That draws us back to each other

Respect and trust  
Once implied  
Now must be restored  
By the one who caused the damage  
By me  
For my wife  
For us