

# MERTON'S PARADOX

by **Kathleen Wine**

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Quiet dawn,  
Sunset red,  
Screaming thoughts  
Inside my head.

The I is false,  
The One is true,  
This joyful pain,  
I thrive on you.

Solitude.  
Silence.  
My heart is full  
Of emptiness.

I see her face;  
I need my space!  
The Dalai calls;  
Forest walls.

Letters,  
Laughter.  
The world is full  
Of nothingness.

Freedgood, Lax,  
Walsh and Ferry.  
Icon of  
The Virgin Mary.

Flee or stay,  
Write and teach  
Or kneel to pray.  
God in Your mercy  
Show me the way.

I chose this prison  
To be free;  
A writer/monk,  
Love's call to me.

O happy conflict  
My spirit flies!  
O paradox!  
Ah — Paradise!