

unavailable

in our talk last night
I regret my defensiveness
regret that I talked so much

wish I had been
much much more silent

and seen and heard you
instead of myself

wish I had listened to you
tell me the truth you saw
and wanted me to see

I did hear
I know I did because
the little bit of truth
I allowed you to say
is in me now

but I suspect that you
do not know I heard you

and that you may have had
much more to say
that I did not hear

it is a great sorrow to me
that my noise
drowned you out

small consolation
that you know I know
of my shallowness

my hope
at least for me
is that my acceptance
and awareness will grow

help me listen more
to my own internal voice
when I am afraid
understand it and calm it
before it unleashes a torrent
which harms another

help me learn
from my selfish failure
to see and hear the reality
of someone I love

Bill Eberle May 2006
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