

## SAFETY NETS

I choke back the  
Tears of loss  
That are always there  
Fighting for control  
Behind dead eyes

Then I read your column  
And think  
At least  
My child lives

Loss is not just  
Of one type  
It comes in  
Many flavors  
The loss of  
A parking place  
A momentary one  
That annoys  
A child who stays  
Angry forever  
A relationship that ends  
Badly or tragically  
The worst being  
The death of a child

And we all grieve  
But as the columnist.  
Wrote so beautifully  
Our friends  
Our dear friends  
Keep us afloat  
They are our safety net  
And link to survival

Bonnie Burka Shannon, PHD, CA & VA LMFT