Ponder

by D. S. Martin in the March 27, 2019 issue

Your children ran ahead down woodland trails always waited laughing at forks for your nod always settled within the comfort of your soothing songs as you showed them the sky

I know the contrary paths they're now choosing tear at you & how they're distracted by shiny stones down in the dirt with no God-vision or sense of all you long to share

I ponder how I not bitten
by the worm that gnaws your soul
can know a thing for my hurt
is not the same & you
blame yourself for the dry land
devoid of music where they wander