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COMMENTS TO EDITOR: Accept with gratitude! This is a eloquent, beautiful essay. Writing - and reflection - of this quality enhances the narrative essay section and the journal. I disagree with reviewer 2 about the awkwardness of the title phrase. I would not change a word.

COMMENTS TO AUTHOR: What you have to say about writing, suffering, and conversation is both luminous and wise. Words and sharing those words with others are how we respond to the "tears of things." Thank you for sharing your words with us.