

# Downtown Milwaukee

*by* DeMisty Bellinger

## **Downtown Milwaukee**

My feet are exposed,  
    never been out in public  
    even out here—  
    lakefront Milwaukee,  
    a little ways from downtown.

I watched Michigan roll over my toes,  
    knees held in crooks of my elbows  
It felt weird to have my feet in front of you.

When you sighed,  
    I saw a small gray stone beside me  
    Flat in spite of a series of ripples across the surface—  
A little lake.

When you said,  
    “Let's go eat,”  
I grabbed my shoes and put the lake in my pocket.

