

---

Winter 1959

## Choice

Joan S. Popke  
*Western Michigan University*

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholarworks.wmich.edu/calliope>



Part of the Creative Writing Commons

---

### Recommended Citation

Popke, Joan S. (1959) "Choice," *Calliope (1954-2001)*: Vol. 5 , Article 4.  
Available at: <https://scholarworks.wmich.edu/calliope/vol5/iss1/4>

This Poetry is brought to you for free and open access by the English at ScholarWorks at WMU. It has been accepted for inclusion in Calliope (1954-2001) by an authorized editor of ScholarWorks at WMU. For more information, please contact [wmu-scholarworks@wmich.edu](mailto:wmu-scholarworks@wmich.edu).

as the spigot is turned  
coffee  
becomes  
down

and we drink of the cup  
some with sugar  
some with cream  
some without

and we live on  
because . . .

Max Steele

## CHOICE

I have been so long alone,  
Sequestered. Life has dimmed away.  
Isolation buries me.  
Endless time becomes the day.

Long ago were turbulence  
And tempests, and I had to pay  
For leaning toward the frenzied storm.  
Endless time becomes the day.

Caution knocked at muddled brain,  
And I exchanged my fine display  
Of feeling for a blind reserve.  
Endless time becomes the day.

I know quiet, and my hell  
Is meted out. It leads the way  
For stark insensibility.  
Endless time becomes the day.

Joan S. Popke