You’ve Got a Friend in Me

My whole body
Ached with pain.
My organs tightened and
I could not breathe,
I could not move.
So I did not.

I lie under a vast mountain,
And it is slowly crushing me.
I am so used to the darkness
I forget other people see light.
I can’t fix myself,
So I do nothing.

Then, a beacon out of nowhere
Begins flashing.
It clicks on and off,
On and off.
The light is too intense for me,
I want it to leave.
It irritates my eyes,
Which have not seen
Such brightness
In so long.
So I try to look away.

But this light is far too strong,
If I close my eyes, I still see it.
What is it?
Why does it care about me?
I want to know.
I need to know,
So I try to lift the mountain.

The light seems almost appealing,
Is something waiting for me?
What does it want from me?
The more I push against the mountain,
The brighter and quicker
The light is.

Finally, the mountain topples over,
Causing great avalanches.
The bright sun climbs into the cracks
Of my place.
I scramble to find
The murky shadows
To which I am accustomed.
But they are gone.
I squint,
The brightness is overwhelming.
I want to go back to the darkness
Where I know every crook and cranny,
Not this foreign illumination.
I bear the light and open my eyes,
look up and see who did this for me.
A face smiles back,
Soft and warm.
A hand extends towards me,

So I take it.

Sinead Olson