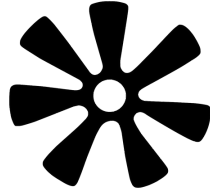


“Best friends are those people who make your problems their problems so you do not have to go through them alone.”

Anonymous



ALONG FOR THE RIDE

How veiled your attempts to appease
 Saying you understand my plight
How veiled your attempts to applaud
 Saying I have your support
How veiled your attempts to feel my pain
 When you have been pain-free for years
My life is not a ride-along

Your willingness to witness my struggles
 Is unwelcomed!
Your provision of lip service
 Is undesired!
I do not need you to be FOR me
I need you to be WITH me
If WITH me,
 You are invested
If FOR me,
 You are along for the ride
 And, can easily divest
 When the ride gets bumpy
My life is not a ride-along!