



**JRB ART**  
**AT THE ELMS**  
Paseo Arts District

What If?

What if  
I have a voice  
That no one else has  
To heal  
Make whole

Do I run from  
The fear that it  
Will not measure up  
To my skewed picture  
of my perfect self?

I never thought of it  
this way -  
That my fear may  
Cause someone else  
to endure pain that  
my voice could relieve.

So  
face my fear  
or relieve someone else's pain  
My choice  
is clear  
Why do I hesitate?

"Prior to seeing Karen Mosbacher's paintings, *Before I Was Me*, I didn't even realize I had been suppressing deep emotions that lay buried. Her works unleashed a torrent of feelings I didn't even know were still there."

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Teresa Morton, *What If*, 2021  
Poem, 11 x 9 in. (27.9 x 22.9 cm)  
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