

Mary M
Tim Suermond

So many men,
but all I've ever wanted is you,
yet you sit again on the edge
of the bed and talk about

the Kingdom of God. It must
be a beautiful place, but is flesh
and this world truly that unworthy
and why be here a minute longer

when you can be in Paradise?
Sorry, you don't have to answer.
I don't understand everything either.
Don't cry, Jesus, just hold me

for the minutes we have left. Don't
pay attention to the men grumbling
outside. They'll always wait
for as long as it takes.

Tim Suermond is the author of five full-length collections of poems, the latest JOSEPHINE BAKER SWIMMING POOL from MadHat Press, 2019. He has published in *Poetry*, *Ploughshares*, *Prairie Schooner*, *The Georgia Review*, *Bellevue Literary Review*, *Stand Magazine*, *december magazine*, *On the Seawall*, *Poet Lore* and *Plume*, among many others. He lives in Cambridge (MA) with his wife, the poet Pui Ying Wong.