

BILL HOWELL

DEFENSIVE INDIFFERENCE

The worst kind of loneliness
comes in pairs.

Waking up, suddenly

wondering where you are. And
she's not here to ask: gone
for longer than you

can remember. In the dream,
your much younger you
was trying to steal second base

but nobody else cared. There
she was, cheering you on
because that's what

you clearly wanted. And now
you need her
to drive you home.