



side by side and in tandem

for more than a decade
we have walked together,
side by side
and in tandem.

Once, we walked
with straight backs
and strong legs,
confidently balanced.

No longer.

Though we still
walk together,
side by side
and in tandem.

Our once supple
responsive bodies,
both now damaged
by time passing,

Have aged in parallel
inflicting changes,
similar,
progressive,

Slowing our pace.

Noticeable limp.
Unsteadiness of gait.
Distressing for me,
seemingly less so for her.

For as long a time
as we have remaining
we will walk together,
side by side and in tandem,

My canine companion, Tilly, and me.

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