

Forgetting and Remembering
By Gabrielle Lewis

Fading

Fading

Fading

Your smile is fading, flickering
Like a withering candle
Your voice is fading, echoing
In the farthest parts of my memories
A dying record
I can only hear
Every other word
You seem to be
fading.

Searching

Searching

Searching

I know you're somewhere there
Your smile is there, I know it
I feel it-- I see you
In a tattered photograph
Worn down by the years
Doesn't capture you quite right
You were just here,
And now my mind
can't find you.

Dying

Dying

Dying

All at once, you're dying again.
It had been so quick,
One second, one word, one breath
And you were gone
But now the pain reaches me slowly
Lurks where I can't see it
Plunges its selfish fingers into my heart and
squeezes.

Remember

Remember

Remember

I don't know what I want to remember
Your smile, your voice, your warmth
How your hugs felt like home
Or the pain, the tears, the deadly silence.
How the lack of you
Killed me, too
I don't know.
I thought it was all

fading.

Fading

Fading

Fading

All of it was fading.

The River Lethe embraced me

Numbed the torment

And let me forget

I could breathe again

I could see your picture and smile

The pain was fading,

But then I realized

So were you.