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## A Mother's Love

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Alli Balick

From place to place my life moves  
With a single goal in mind.  
I'm just trying to survive.  
Eighteen and I'm out.  
Every time I feel love,  
I quickly feel loss.  
It's better just to get through it  
Without any feelings.  
Yet, I yearn for one particular love  
From the one I should so very hate.  
She controls me; she has me by her hand.  
She's the reason for my life.  
Not just why I was born, but how I'm living.  
I turn away anyone I might become attached to  
For fear of their loss, like my mother, like Claire.  
Claire's love was everlasting like a river flowing into the ocean.  
How easy it was to feel love from Claire.  
Why am I so drawn toward my mother?  
Why do I want love in a place where it's so hard to find?  
I want to remember my past, I need to be linked to it.  
The horror of it doesn't turn me away.  
I want to remember my mother, because she's my mother.  
There's no greater reason for it than that.

