#### I Search

I search

Search for answers to questions I don't even understand

For the cigarette that disgusts me

And the bottle that has become my only way to sleep

I lay in bed at night searching for you

For the cuddles that used to calm me

Your lips saying "it'll be alright"

I search for the man that you made me

Finding only a fractured man remaining

I loved me for the first time when you found me

Now I think I hate it

Because you're the one that made it

I vowed to give you my whole life

You vowed exactly the same

But what did you really give?

A year

Twelve months

And then you began to leave

525,600 minutes

How do you measure year?

By following it with six months of hiding

Filled with distance, lies, and an affair

I tried to find you

Searching to bring you home

I am ruined now

A fragment of who I was and wanted to be

I search for touch in the arms of a stripper

Knowing it's not real but at least they pretend affection

Looking around the bar for someone to hold tonight

The beers pile up trying to drown my despair

And now I search for the anti-depressants I dread

The same drugs your mother had to buy me

Because I was so broke I couldn't help myself

Your mother showed me more compassion

A mother who's cancer you used to hide your affair

I search for comfort in the words of your family

Who don't understand how you could do this

I talk to them because you won't

In the ruins of my life

I search for something to rebuild

Is there any part of me I can still enjoy?

Finding only reminders of what we once had

There is a struggle to move on

Searching for answers in the razor I held for far too long

And the side of the road where I almost lost control

I know suicide is not the answer and I still considered it

I search

And realize you're not worth it

I am broken, battered, and bruised

But I will survive

Even if it takes me a year or five or ten

It's your turn to search

In the cocaine and pills and alcohol that now consume you

Search for whatever the fuck it is you thought you were missing

And when your world is shattered and destroyed

You'll realize what you threw away

A good man and loving husband

Someone that might have helped you if you'd only opened up

You have royally fucked me up

And I'm struggling to survive

But through these ancient ruins I searched

And found the strength to carry on

#### **Stolen Life**

Have you ever felt your life was taken from you? That you belonged to something else? As I sit on the steps tonight I'm hit with this thought My life was unwillingly ripped from my chest It's easy for others to offer their distant advice Those who've never experienced this Others who have already been healed The words they offer do not comfort They cannot bandage these massive wounds Love makes us do some really stupid things Like holding on to someone who left long ago I sit here trying to light my cigarette Begging for the calm that it can bring But these crying eyes can't focus My life belonged to another soul "The two shall become one flesh" One plus one equaling one But the severance rips too much apart I came in as one and was left with maybe half Half the man I once had been Half as trusting, loyal, and kind The qualities I held so very dear to me Fractured in this horrifying aftermath A life that I once loved is abruptly gone If stealing my life once wasn't enough for her She managed to steal it again in this struggle For two months I have battled the demons within Tonight I realize that she still controls me And I wonder why I have allowed this My life belongs to me No one else should dictate my course Yet, I long for her touch Desire to hear her voice Wish upon ever star for her return But she was gone long before I even knew In one fatal stab to my heart she plunged One blow stole my life twice The life I loved with her is destroyed The life I need to move on held captive How can I move on? What is left of my tattered heart Remains chained to her fucking arm I struggle and fight to free it Doing anything I can to go forward

But love makes us do really stupid things
And I let her hold that damn chain
I want to belong to me
To guide my own path to recovery
Please God, send someone to help me
Help me
Help me
I'm drowning in this violent storm
Weighed down by a heart still yearning
Seeking the one that holds it's cord
I gave my life to her once before
And then she stole it twice in the same moment
Have you ever felt your life was taken from you?

#### **Where Loneliness Hurts**

There is a place where the pain hurts the most

Where the cold wind burns through the hole in my chest

It is not good for man to be alone

And it rings truer than ever in this place

Seeking for someone to heal this wounded heart

I long for the passionate kiss that will numb the pain

For the smell of her hair to wash away the memories

To pull her close and block the harsh breeze

I sit at home struck by a devastating plague

A house once full of life now full of empty

This loneliness haunts the core of my humanity

And the chilling wind scorches where a heart once lay

This house, this soul, this chest, and these arms abandoned

Longing desperately for someone to hold

Bring the numbing relief of your kiss to my lips

Let the scent of your hair flow up from your head on my chest

And be a guard for these torturous chills passing through this gaping hole

Home is where the heart is

Only if your heart doesn't hurt when you get there

We can talk away the darkness of the night

Or lay still and bask in its quietness

I will laugh with you

I will cry with you

Just don't make me go home

Don't make me go to the one place where I don't feel connected

Where I'm away from everyone and everything

Kiss my lips and melt this harsh pain

Evaporate old memories with the new aroma your hair brings

Shield this wind scared hole as it slowly heals

Just please don't make me go home

Home is where loneliness hurts

#### **Vision**

It's hard to see the future When your eyes are blurred by today's tears A soul trapped in chains Despite the shit I've been dragged through The muck and mire of this struggle I just want to beg her to come home Knowing it won't work But desiring it all the same I know I deserve better Someone who will be loyal Someone who will appreciate me Someone who will share my life Eventually that day will come Of that I have no doubts It's hard to see the future When your eyes are blurred by today's tears But today's tears water tomorrow's growth

#### **The Climb**

Friday was spent on a euphoric high

Finally feeling freedom from failure

The month leading up a steady climb

Friendships are forged

Others rekindled after time

It appears to be a new season for me

I am confident

Headstrong and sure

New direction for a new day

Thirty pounds lighter

Happier than I've been

Wrapped in warmth and joy

A smile returns to my face

Then came Friday night

One disappointment to crack me

Saturday follows with two more gentle stabs

Sunday plagued by silence from friends

Monday brings the fatal blow

Tuesday hints at Friday's folly

Iron strong and steadfast

Reduced to a crumbling mess

I've now landed in a funk I can't shake

Loneliness overwhelms me once more

I am withdrawn

Shut down

Shaken to my core

Two steps forward

One shove back

This is my constant journey

Finding happiness when I can

Little by little by little

Inching, crawling, grasping at each moment

I climb oh so slowly

Trying to secure the new me I'm finding

I cannot escape

The fall always finds me

But still I climb

Because one day this loneliness will end

Friends will stay true

Companionship once again found

The tumble scars and bruises

And still I try to climb

Resting only to stop the bleeding of my soul

This recent fall so brutally harsh

Today I reach to climb again
Her memory fades slowly away
I am ready to reach this end
Wanting desperately for its conclusion
Knowing it won't come soon enough
The fall always finds me
Yet still I reach for the climb