

we lock eyes for the first time
& i forget how to breathe.

you kiss me
& i forget how to breathe.

you slip your tongue between my lips
& i forget how to breathe.

you look at me *that way*
& i forget how to breathe.

you arch your back slightly
& i forget how to breathe.

my name slips out in a gasp
from between your clenched teeth
& i forget how to breathe.

your hand grazes against my own
& i forget how to breathe.

you hold me tighter
& i forget how to breathe.

you fall asleep on my chest
& i forget how to breathe.

you whisper *i love you*
thinking i couldn't hear
& i forget how to breathe.

you ask what i'm thinking about
but i know that i can't put it into words
& i forget how to breathe.

you look at me from the passenger seat

while i'm singing & barely paying attention
to the world that surrounds us
& you give me that lopsided smile
& i forget how to breathe.

you catch me staring,
taking in every detail
because i'm afraid to forget
the slope of your nose
or the way your lips part
when you whisper my name
or the dip in your collar bone
or the way your chest rises
when you take in a breath
& you ask me why
i'm looking at you that way
& i forget how to breathe.

your eyes fill with sorrow
& i forget how to breathe.

you tell me *it's not you, it's me*
& i forget how to breathe.

you stop replying to texts
& i forget how to breathe.

you remove yourself
from all aspects of my life
& i forget how to breathe.

i find remnants of you
throughout every day
little things
you thought i'd throw away
& while holding back tears
i forget how to breathe.