

**Third Place**  
**Perky Poets Society National Poetry Month Contest**

**Remember**

Remember  
Fluttering eyelashes  
Racing hearts  
And whispered voices

Casually holding your hand  
but raking my fingertips across  
Your palm.  
Holding on a little too long.

Stolen kisses in the parking lot  
after dark

Casting down my eyes so no one suspected.  
“Keep it to yourself,” you said.

Becoming a secret  
Fading into nothing  
Falling into that deep chasm that is  
Love.

“I’m too old and you’re too young,” you said,  
but my brain and not my heart could understand.

The voice inside my head began  
to sound like you. It told me,  
“You’re not good enough.”

An endless tug-of-war.  
Go away.  
Come back.  
You’re wrong.  
You’re mine.

Remember  
A goodbye.  
Watching as you walked away  
A man, growing tinier on the escalator to a  
terminal.  
A plane.  
Aching rip of broken flesh inside my chest.  
Hot tears on frozen cheeks.  
A broken heart held together by thick, ugly calluses.

A memento. A tiny voice.  
“You’re not good enough.  
Remember.”