

forever my child
by Natalie Ryan

Breathe in.
Breathe out.

Walk slowly,
Glance around.

Each foot drifts forward and backward.
Weight distributes,
Gravity works its course.
A movement overlooked.

The pads of feet press
Into each grain and every pebble
That individually earth-toned squares consist of.

Walking on a smooth surface.
Taken for granted.

Breathe in.
Breathe out.

Flick of a wrist
And flying goes a disk.
Hands up,
Jump,
Missed.
The plastic skids to a halt,
Huffing frustration.

A simple game of camaraderie.
Taken for granted.

Breathe in.
Breathe out.

Slam the alarm.
Stumble down a flight.
Three little, begging mouths.
A bus to catch,
A subway never waits.
Grab the cup.
Rush.
Hasten.

Wafting steam,
Soothing smell,
Livening libation.
Time to really begin the day.

A morning's cup of coffee.
Taken for granted.

Breathe in.
Breathe out.

Left knee,
Right knee.
Uneven, cold stone
Rock bottom.

Stain glass fragments
Illuminate the darkness.

To both sides
Open arms pinned,
Awaiting.
Love in one action.

Words fluttering,
Fingers laced.
Conversation.

Hopes,
Dreams,
Despairs,
Questions.

Only human.

Breathe in.
Breathe out.

All-knowing

Breathe in.
Breathe out.

All-loving

Breathe in.
Breathe out.

Warm embrace

Awaken your eyes.

Arise.

Forever my child.