

TEARS AND ROSES

by Katrina Relf

I have no life save in the love that you gave me,
And, without you, that life is worthless.
Now I am bound to a world apart from you,
A world where every thought is but a memory,
And every memory becomes a tear.
Tiny drops of sadness, so silent, so eloquent,
Falling forever from eyes that see only you.
Could they but wash away the torment of this empty heart,
This empty life.
Yet still the pain burns within me,
Washes over me, holds me close.
I feel as a child again – lost and afraid,
Seeking to find the comfort of a mother's arms,
Seeking in vain for something I have never known.
But, in your love, Catherine,
I had no cause to seek that long lost dream.
I found a treasure beyond any imagining,
And, for a moment, I let myself believe
That, even for me, anything was possible.
But now you are gone,
And, in truth, I no longer have the strength to bear it alone,
I know not how –
Without you,

Without your love to guide me.
Now that part of me that I fought so hard to control –
For you, for my world –
Grows stronger with every day,
And time after time I am tempted to lose myself within him,
Never to return.

To lose myself within a heart that knows no love, no grief,
Within that soulless place of no remorse.

For within his fire, his rage, all pain would be dispelled.

I would never more fear my aloneness –

Rather glory in it,

Glory in the darkness that makes him strong.

Perhaps I would find a kind of peace,

A dreamless sleep – within him.

A place where all the pain, the emptiness, the loss,

Would be remembered only as a dream,

A dream, that once dreamt, would be forgotten.

But, Catherine, then I would forget you,

For no love, nor memory of love, would remain,

And memories are your only legacy –

The only part of you that I can hold close

Here – within me – mine.

A wreath of tears and roses -

Of love and shattered dreams,

Is all that I can give you,

But I will remember.

Through the pain and the tears

There will be times when I will curse our dream

For the nightmare it has become,

But I will not forget it,
For the dream is you,
It is all we ever had.
A longing for lost moments,
A longing to share so many words still unspoken,
So many promises never kept,
And sighs –
Soft upon lips that longed to be kissed.
Everything lost forever,
Everything lost to a dream.
And now there is nothing,
Save for the darkness that would claim me,
Save for the emptiness that is already mine.
You are my only light,
A candle that burns in the wind,
That shines from afar and lights my way.
For, without you, that way is dark,
And I am lost in a strange world,
Filled with familiar faces that I no longer know.
So come to me – take my hand –
And lead me towards the light.
Take me home, Catherine,
And let me rest forever
In the eternity of your arms.