

## I STILL LOVED HIM

By: Milena Kostic, 16

Mather high school

Second Place Winner for YWAT Teen Dating Violence Poetry Contest

He used to be so gentle and nice  
So I took the offer and rolled the dice  
I wish I never took my turn  
The pain he's given me hurt far more than a burn  
But after all, *I still loved him*  
Now I wish I can take it all back  
I still remember his sudden attack  
He left a few scars, so what  
He does it because he loves me – is what I thought  
Though *I still loved him*  
“Don’t wear this, don’t wear that  
It doesn’t look right, you look fat”  
His words were very harsh, they hurt a lot  
But they were all forgotten with the roses that he bought  
What hurt most of all is when he said  
“I want to be with her instead”  
After all the tears I’ve cried  
And after all the ways he lied  
*I still loved him*  
He’s had his fun with her, and now he comes to me  
I find myself asking the same question-“how stupid can you be”  
The same repeated cycle now and never gone  
The same hand across my face when I do some thing “wrong”  
The jealousy still remains  
“Who’s that guy you were talking to?”  
He’s only a friend, what’s the matter with you?”  
I see his hand begin to move-“TELL ME WHO YOU BEONG TO!”  
I began to scream “you” .....  
After all *I still loved him*  
Then he comes home with a box of chocolates to make up  
It would be of better use to buy me cover up  
I wish I can run away  
I know I have a choice, I don’t have to stay  
So I pack up my things and decide to leave  
I can do without him, I begin to believe  
So as I walk to the bus stop  
I look back, I feel there’s something I must have forgot  
I know what it is, with no doubt in my mind  
Without him I still feel empty inside  
I won’t turn back though, not this time  
This time I will leave my heart behind...  
Even though *I still love him*