

“I’LL BE OK”

By: Jelena Kostic, 16.

Mather high school

First Place Winner of the YWAT Teen Dating Violence Poetry Contest.

Thinking about you while trying to sleep
Knowing what awaits me after my quiet weep
The lies, the hurt, the shattered heart
How am I supposed to move on when I don't know where to start?
The memories rush like water down a faucet
I catch myself looking for the box stashed in my closet
No longer do I follow my heart I only listen to my head
“I'll never hurt you” wasn't how you felt, it was just what the letters said
You promised me eternal love, nothing more, nothing less
And now I hide my bruises through an old friendly dress
I remember all the things you did to me and didn't care at all
All the marks, cuts, and black eyes I got from “volleyball”
You said you loved me and tried very hard to explain
How could you love someone and cause them this much pain?
I keep thinking of ways to go back a few months or more
When your love was calling me out to play I should've slammed the door
I used to have some self-confidence but I traded it all for you and so
Now I walk with my head bent down and carry a mirror everywhere I go
If only my mother knew what I'm going through
She was blind too, she couldn't even see through you
I have to move on but I do have a fear
That once I try, you'll sweep me off my feet with a fake little tear
These bruises on the outside will fade; I'll no longer have to hide
But the memories will stay; the pain will always be inside
I've let myself down, I'm no longer the strong woman I use to be
And how I felt for way too long has been slowly killing me
Your lies hurt my heart like a harsh carpet burn
But the man upstairs sees everything- you will get your turn
I'm going to say goodbye, I'll be on my way
I know it will take time but I'll be O.K.