

Robin Stratton – Three Poems

Netflix

My ex-boyfriend's best friend
lets me use his Netflix password
And man, it is so great
At first I watched it to keep me company
during supper so I wouldn't feel alone
because the split with my boyfriend
was kind of sudden
But then I fell in love with
some of the shows
and before I knew it
I realized that Netflix was more fun
than my ex boyfriend ever was.

Form

The receptionist at the doctor's office
hands me the form and explains that
I will need to provide a new contact person
in case of an emergency

I take the form and sit
and try to figure out what name
I will write in the space
that always belonged to my mother

What We Lose

Our toys
Our homework
Our innocence
Our sense of wonder
Our virginity
Our confidence
Our self esteem
Our cool
Our first boyfriend
Our trust

Our first job
Our money

Our first apartment (“Hi, Mom... ?”)
Our sleep

Our best friends as they get married
More boyfriends
Our smooth skin
Our ability to get pregnant
Our bone density
Our moist, supple vaginas

Our innocence (again)
Our dreams
A few close friends who get cancer
Our parents
The last dog we’ll ever own

Everything

Our fear of losing everything

Robin Stratton has been a writing coach in the Boston area for 25 years. She is the author of four novels, one of which was a finalist in the Indie Excellence Awards. She is Acquisitions Editor for Big Table Publishing Company, Managing Editor for *Boston Literary Magazine*, and Director of the Newton Writing and Publishing Center. Her poetry and short fiction has appeared in dozens of magazines and anthologies. Watch interviews or read excerpts from all her books at www.robinstratton.com