

instantly familiar



**poems by D. M. Pliska
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me



cut my hand
i can feel the pain
a little blood

no one is here
i'm all by myself
drinking tea

my eyes water
exhaustion has set in
and i yawn

standing up
blood rushes away
seeing stars

ac too loud
I can't hear the speaker
looks like a mime

machines hum
everyone else is asleep
working late

kiss on the cheek
won't you tuck us in
daughter asks

bills to pay
father distracted
children play

burning inferno in my head
the room spins and sways
and i sit down

i hold it
all inside me
stony silence

frozen hands
my toes stone cold
white snow

a fog
in my head
i fall down

watching
i don't experience
but wish to

i sat down
my heart beating fast
you were gone

a blinking
12 on my vcr
where's the remote

grey skies, waterlogged clouds
wet sandals, wet toes sliding to and fro
warm rain of summer

dripping hair soaked shirt
a rainy day in autumn
on my way to class

sunshine
sight of breath
bitter cold

bright sun
sight of breath
crunchy snow

what is it
you want me to do
not easy

a picture
my life in blue
painted everyday

i'm not strong
my life in anxiety
hide away

October
under rain clouds
shivering

i have
nothing to offer
anyone

i told you
are you listening
my voice

i told you
did you hear
my words

you know me
I watch you
from behind

i have seen
the way you walk
short skirt

i have seen
the way you walk
cracked pavement

sheet of ice
skates need sharpening
i fall down

thoughts
an idea comes to mind
relevant

rainy day
my mind wanders
salt tea

rainy day
my mind wanders
thoughts of you

i sit here
do you even know
i exist

i can't help
but watch you read
turn the page

poke my eye out
let it roll on the floor
i will finally see you

i came all this way
to hear what you had to say
you had been crying

in my head
i hear the voices
the wind howls

in my head
i hear voices
mosquitos

my stomach
rumbles like thunder
as i sit

i think so
i know everything
but not really

soy chai
keeps me up at night
caffeine crazy

the last one
i sat here all night
just to finish

nothing coming
sitting on my cushion
nothing going

just coming
sitting on my cushion
just going

**i am tired
hardly slept a wink
tossed and turned**

**head ache
i am seeing stars
need a nap**

**snow's crunch
beneath my feet
white expanse**

**winter's cold
shivers my neck
wrong coat**

you



**your red toes
peeking out of sandals
green grass**

**furrowed brow
what are you reading
then you frown**

**red toenails
peeking out of sandals
green grass**

**so now you
have everything you
want in life**

**so you say
a whole pound of flesh
worth it?**

**freezing cold
air conditioner blows
right on me**

**blue shirt
touch of lace
look away**

**black eye
you hide it well
bruised flower**

**black eye
you hide it well
with a sad smile**

you look sad
your smile lies
i think

your smile lies
you look so sad
your eyes

you look sad
leaning back you watch
rain on the window

you might have
one experience
a feeling

do you know
how to say it well
think think think

words seep in
write it down will you
don't forget

striped scarf
hiding your face
cold eyes

striped scarf
hiding your face
only eyes

on your fingers
puzzle rings three deep
gripping your coffee

**on any other day
they would hang you
out to dry**

**so now you
have everything you
want in life**

**all the world
is with you
just sit**

me and you



she smiles and walks over
yellow flower in her hair
touches my elbow

staring at a bean
reflections of you and me
a breeze from the lake

days of grey and cold
we walk your warm hand in mine
bracing against winters chill

with a smile she comes
to sit by me in the sun
bees on pink clover

don't ask
i've told you too much
already

if you knew
how would you feel
betrayed

your hands
tell me a story
out loud

we always knew
it would end
that's it

young woman
our eyes meet
look away

girl on a bus
eyes meet
look away

you and me
talking we act like
teenagers

instantly
familiar we talk
awkwardly

does she know
heart on my sleeve
picking flowers

does she know
crying inside i ache
won't tell

does she know
i've said too much
look away

we look
smile knowingly
can't say

does she know
i've said too much
looking down

we look
smile knowingly
we don't say a word

you stood up
brought me to the door
didn't say anything

you stood up
left me at the door
forgotten kiss

on your porch
not even goodnight
mosquitoes

porch light
together we kiss
mosquitoes

you stood up
brought me to the door
didn't say goodbye

jealous heart
you are not even mine
just friends

to dinner
i asked you out
you said no

together
we walked by the lake
through leaves

dropped my drink
shattered on the floor
drops on your shoes

**spilled my tea
cup on the floor
you wearing boots**

**listen my love
our hearts beat as one
good timing**

**i saw it in your face
we wondered how we got here
but we know**

**you and i
long we've been together
is it over**

**are you mad
your eyes tell me so
we don't connect**

**are you sad
your eyes say so
no connection**

them



**blue flower
sitting in a vase
wooden table**

**crimson hair
pulls a shot
and smiles**

**rows and lines
put everything
in its place**

**big blue sky
a single cloud floats by
sun in out**

**a single cloud
in a big blue sky
looks lonely**

**bright blue sky
sunshine on a cloud
shadow on ground**

**dry brown grass
a rabbit hops away
hungry**

**blue sky
a cloud covers the sun
grey thoughts**

**spoon rattles dish
ice cream melts on the floor
dog licks up**

covered in mud
with a bloody nose
he plays rough

missing tooth
she chews on one side
checkered smile

a-b-cs
learn these you must
numbers too

in the cold water
faces moving on the wall
children's feet splashing

loud mouths
can't stop talking
no secrets

pretty face
talking with friends
bare midriff

brown hair
talking with friends
beer belly

that girl
walked on by
khaki pants

young girl
diamond ring
fresh face

preppy girl
diamond sparkles
prim and proper

my girl cries
emotions run wild
she falls asleep

her tears fall
on her nightgown
her mother's knee

pig tail braids
chasing butterflies
running barefoot

dark blue coat
a red carnation
on your lapel

a bowler hat
with a small red feather
often tipped

sullen boy
with his head down
won't look up

it



warm tea cup
the musty scent of
grass and peppermint

warm tea cup
grass and peppermint
heady scent

white wreath
not yet thanksgiving
brown leaf

cool November
white Christmas wreath
bare trees

blank paper
steaming cup of coffee
brown ring

cold day
green dandelion
happy surprise

ask it
it's in the question
the sky

october
under rain clouds
greasy puddles

grey october
leaves blow away
fall again

**imagine
a summer day
like a happy laugh**

**sunny day
a happy laugh
outside**

**winter cold
wind blows snow
shivering**

**lotus flower
three sheets of ice
frozen solid**

**lotus flower
frozen when dropped
shatters**

**a moment
frozen in time
thoughts pictures**

**ice and snow
the north wind blows
november**

**minnesota
winter comes early
snowflakes**

**snow and ice
north wind chills
woolen hat**

too bright
wear your sunglasses
winter ice

ice on my
car windshield frosted
frozen wipers

ice rink
sheet of ice
frozen solid

bundled up
scarf mittens boots
sight of breath

chocolate bar
melted in my purse
brown lipstick

chocolate bar
won't you have a piece
delicious

chocolate bar
eaten after lunch
just a taste

my cup leaks
tea on the table
wet paper

my cup leaks
tea on the table
ink runs

leaky paper cup
the tea runs my ink
blurry poem

leaky cup
tea on the table
writing ruined

leaky paper cup
tea on the table
my reflection

grey skies
garden in puddles
drowned flowers

daffodils
bent by heavy rain
yellow into grey

trembling lip
tear stained cheeks
a crushed flower

cucumber sandwich
girl at the bar
takes a bite

cucumber sandwich
girl at the bar
losing at backgammon

white table cloth
the tea pot is hot
minty

running fast
the doors open and close
train pulls away

hopelessness
the smart ones know
it's hard to belong

the snow falls
through the window pane
warm inside

snow falls
through the window pane
hot chocolate

sunshine bright
warm mediation hall
snow on the ground

all rubbish
garbage makes a flower
in a way

black cushions
sit all in a row
facing the wall

cold winds blow
clouds cover the sun
summer over

why do
leaves change color
in the fall

**open window
birds chirping outside
sitting quietly**

**misty pond
early morning sun
long shadows**

**morning sun
mist on the water
shadow reeds**

**green and yellow
leaves on the trees and on
the ground**

**sea of green
ocean of yellow
autumn leaves**

**blowing wind
sparkles in the air
a snow storm**

**puts on shoes
sitting on the bench
the dog barks**

