## Passage

## **Fotomoto**

I died in a car crash two days ago Was unrecognizable When they pulled me from the gears No one's fault, no one's bottle No one's teenage pride or throttle Our innocence is all the worse for fears The other walked away alive Arms wrapped now around his wifeMy lover sits, the silent eye In a hurricane of warmth and word My mother trembles with the sobs Whose absence seems absurd My sister shouts to let her see Through the cloud of crowd surrounding me My colleagues call for silence in my nameI died in a car crash three months ago They burned me 'til I glowed And crumbled to a fine gray sand Now I am nothing, everywhere Several breaths of strangers air And all thoughts ever written in my hand They plant my tree out in the yard It grows but takes the winter hardMy lover puts a knife to wrist Says tomorrow comes, hold on a while My mother tosses in the sheets And dreams me holding my own child My sister plays our homemade tapes Laughs as tears, stream down her face My office door now bears a different nameI died in a car crash four years ago My tree drinks melted snow Just eight feet tall, a pale and fragile thing Bee stings beaches bright vacations Sunburnt high-school graduations A sparrow healing from a broken wing This year a glimpse of second chances Tiny apples on my tree's branchesMy lover hears the open wind And crawls blinking into the sun My mother leafs through photographs And thinks, "Yes, she was a lovely one" My sister can't decide her truth Asks aloud what I might do

In a conference hall my brief efforts engravedI died in a car crash, a lifetime ago it seems Been a decade or two or three They've just released a new design Bars and bags front and behind My fate now an impossibility Safely packaged hurtling down The highway hardly make a sound My lover very much alive Arms wrapped now around his wife

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