

1995

## Gabe and Me

Heather Trabert  
*Denison University*

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**Gabe and Me****I**

We in a restaurant  
 The Family. Me, you  
 Tony, Ellen, and Mom.  
 Our family.  
 You screamin' about my birthday  
 though it ain't - why you do that?  
 -my little sister sixteen-  
 I was sixteen a week ago  
 You know it but you don't care.  
 -hey I said she sixteen!-  
 you screamin' to the other people.  
 You tip back my chair  
 and kiss me.  
 People look, oh, they look.  
 But they just people eatin'  
 You screamin' happy birthday  
 I was embarrassed  
 but I admire you so  
 I say nothin'

**II**

oh god. then I come home.  
 Not even our home,  
 our step-dad's home; the bastard.  
 -committed suicide last night-  
 I was on a trip last night  
 you couldn't come, had to work  
 so you said.  
 We Howled.  
 me and mom  
 fell to the floor a-screamin'  
 Ripping pieces out of the carpet  
 shredding our hands till we say jewels of blood  
 my insides would explode soon,  
 my whole heart.

**III**

Not many years behind us - we pretty young  
 but we have to learn.  
 have to survive - the streets - are tough  
 You lead me around  
 You making jokes  
 teachin' everyone to laugh  
 You have that wild smile  
 and those eyes  
 they supposed to be blue but they always red.  
 you convincing me that  
 you not what I think you are.  
 You mean to my friend.  
 You makin' me laugh though.  
 I tryin' to be mad.  
 'cuz you mean to my friend  
 But you my brother.  
 - Heather Trabert '96