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Gabe and Me

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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