

The Things We Take From Each Other

1.

Sitting around,

Waiting to die.

"Her body isn't producing red blood cells correctly.

If it doesn't correct itself by morning, she goes for bone marrow testing."

She died to me 3 years ago.

Rubber, cords, wires

Coming and going as they please.

Flashing lights and sirens every two weeks.

Another 2 a.m. phone call.

"Can you come sit with the dog?"

As always,

I can.

2.

They say that love is fickle.

They say it doesn't last.

They were right in some ways.

Love sure did go by fast.

3.

Youth,

Fading into gray hair,

Never stopping to ask,

"Will I regret this next year?"

Always hoping that tomorrow is better.

Always asking

"When does it get easier?"

Does it get easier?

Does it?

4.

I need you, Mother.

I love you, Daughter.

I need you, Mother.

I will help you, Daughter.

I need you, Mother.

Still, Daughter?

I need you, Mother.
You can do this on your own, Daughter.

I need you, Mother.
Will you ever stop, Daughter?

I need you, Mother.
Get a job, Daughter.

I need you, Mother.
When will this end, Daughter?

I need you, Mother.
You're becoming an embarrassment, Daughter.

I need you, Mother.
No more, Daughter.

I'm sorry, Mother.
I still love you, Daughter.

5.
Think of the things we take from each other.
What have you given today?
Heart, soul, mind, body.
I would return them all if I could.
I would lay them at your feet.
However, I need to take yours
Because I already gave mine away.

—Taryn Korody