Goodbye

Mindy Hardwick
St. John Fisher College

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Goodbye

Abstract
In lieu of an abstract, below is the essay's first paragraph.

"I watched you lean against the bar in an alcoholic haze..."

Cover Page Footnote
I watched you lean against the bar in an alcoholic haze. Your hand clutched the beer bottle as your eyes struggled to focus. A smug grin escaped your mouth as blue eyes scanned the length of my body. The scene so familiar, the crowd so blurred. Three years of watching you destroy yourself had passed. Friendships had been destroyed, lives lost. Yet, still you clutched the beer bottle. As I watched you struggle to keep your balance against the bar, a scene flashed through my mind. The night we met, both of us leaning against each other thinking we had found true love. Wasted nights of watching you lose reality to your best friend, the bottle. My self-esteem trickling down a drain as we both drowned. I looked at you and felt pity. Tonight, I stand in front of you with a renewed strength. The cruel words and silent mind games no longer affect me. The boy I once knew didn’t grow with the girl. The girl became a woman, but the boy stayed a child. I reach out to hug you and a tear escapes my eye. You were so lost, you didn’t know it was good-bye.