For Grandma

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Eat My Orange

Oranges are good for drinking tea with but the gunk gets under
your fingernails
I need a cup of tea though Sometimes I don't mind the peeling
Tonight, no
Company? Neat little sections good for sharing
Here's one, I love you Here's another, I'm glad you're around
Have a cup of tea, no milk, let's talk Eat my orange
The apple looks nice from here but
Up close it's waxy Inside it's grainy, mushy
Wouldn't eat it Not with tea Not with company
Eat my orange with me Apples are nicer in pies
Eat my orange

--- Monica J. Bradbury ---

For Grandma

You were here -
I remember so vividly
a walk in the park,
a ride on the Ferris wheel.

You were here -
when I skinned my knee,
when the water went up my nose
and I coughed uncontrollably.

You were here -
to teach me about life,
to learn how to draw,
and see where the birds live.

You were here -
when I needed you most
and now I am left wondering,
having learned all of your lessons,
why I am never here for you.

--- Katharine D. Farnam ---