

## Twenty Two Fourteen

The Album Leaf

We were best friends, destined to learn each others lessons  
You called with a question and I ignored your message  
Tension sets in and I can say that since then  
At 10:14 PM I finally regret this.

Cried for your attention.  
Blew out your birthday candles.  
Threw my toys when I was mad.  
The worst way to handle it.

When you told me the dog died.  
But I let him out without a leash  
And didn't tell you to avoid being hogtied and beat with reeds.

I told you the wrong lies.  
Said the truth too often.  
Though the other boys were good  
I never threw caution.

I locked you out of your bedroom.  
And hid the key under the door.  
Thought I was smartest guy,  
And never really wanted more.

I drew disfigured pictures of you  
In odd and screwed up ways.  
With the same blue markers on the wall  
Where I drew my name.

Cheated in board games.  
Never liked to play fair.  
Made fun of you at daycare.  
And told you I can't Share.

I forgot to get a gift.  
Never called on Christmas.  
Made jokes at funerals.  
Never sweated the little shit.

Tore pages out of your journal.  
By the way, I unlocked your journal.  
Now there's a bit of an awkward turtle.  
Disobeyed the doctors orders.

I punched holes in your walls.  
Shattered your painted windows.  
Hid in the shower for several hours  
Till you made the amends grow.

I walked all over you.  
Told you that you weren't pretty.  
Of course, I'll be damned if I ordered you  
To stand where you were sitting.

I peer pressured you,  
Even though I wasn't your peer.  
Pulled down your curtains

So respect would disappear.

Said I was going one way  
But then I'd go another.  
Turned my back on you when you  
Acted like my own mother.

Promised I'd quit smoking.  
You asked me to quit joking.  
Told you you were adopted  
You cried, and told me to stop it.

I made your computer crash.  
Deleted your photographs.  
Scratched all your records  
Never paid you back for the load of cash.

I took off without you.  
Constantly pushed you away.  
Kept secrets to myself,  
But then I'd ask you to stay

I put As on the back of your shirt  
So you can see where it actually hurts.  
Blamed you for attacking me first.  
Told you that you're asking for worse

Things to come.  
I bleed your blood  
I need your love.  
I keyed your truck.

Wasn't afraid to fight back.  
Never got on the right track.  
Turned your eyes black  
When I gave you a hard slap.

I dragged your ass on the carpet  
And gave you bad rug-burn.  
Showed the skies would darken when I  
Said I don't love her.

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I decided to steal your money.  
Gamble it all away for good.  
Then I had you bail me out.  
Just because I knew that you could.

Vandalized your village.  
Tantalized you and pillaged.  
Slowly ripped out your wallpaper.  
And Turned the water to spillage.

Smashed your mirrors in.  
Then I Crashed your American  
Car, that I borrowed without asking  
For your parenting.

Cut off your hair while you slept

Slashed your clothes into nets.  
Sold your house and your belongings  
Till you had nothing left.

Everything was your fault.  
Cause I didn't carry a heart.  
Then you took the blame  
I didn't know where to start.

Constantly called you stupid.  
Even though you were always smart.  
Stopped calling you by your name.  
We were only falling apart.

I ignored you on one condition.  
To further my own position.  
Avoided eye contact to put  
You in a cold submission.

I tripped you until you fell.  
Bruised your arms and legs.  
Held you down and tied you up  
And made you fall again.

I cut off your air supply  
Kept you underwater.  
Held you back, and weighed you down  
So now the space is larger

I spit in your face and called you a whore.  
Chose to hang out with a girl  
Instead of you, so I guess you have the right to say that now it's war.

Tortured you with a lighter.  
Pushed you off the roof  
I stabbed you with a box-cutter.  
Buried you with the truth.

Pretended it never happened.  
Wiped my hands clean.  
Gave it the cold shoulder  
Cause I don't owe a damn thing.

Stuck to my resolutions.  
Smiled everyday.  
Read the paper in the morning  
Survived in many ways.

Stole your identity,  
And achieved serenity.  
I left the rest of me  
Deep inside your memory.  
Started a new life,  
And forgot what you meant to me.