

Your Souvenir

(for Melissa)

I tried to hate
you,
but all
I can feel
is loss.

Loss of what
should have been.

And loss of part
of my heart,
amputated
to save the rest
from the shock
and trauma
of the pain
you caused.

As you leave
with that little piece
of my broken heart,
please be more gentle
than you were
with the rest
of it.