



*Paper Mill Press*

## **Pop Culture References Etc**

Cynthia Dunphy

Remember when we used to write each other poetry?  
Like a debate  
Like literary gifts

I find myself debating  
With me  
With the music in my headphones  
or the side notes in that same book I read to you over the phone  
Years ago.

But you don't remember that.  
I do.  
I know you don't remember that because you still don't know  
That this poem is about you.



Clouds in my coffee.



I miss finding scraps of poetry and love notes in my laundry.  
Pennies  
and that silly piece of paper from the cigarette packs  
"You can quit"

I think we took turns quitting.  
I tend to do that.  
I quit you  
You quit me  
Never at the same time.

How Brokeback of us.

Fear grabs a hold of me and shakes me  
It shakes me so hard  
I stumble as I run away.

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We are t  
We're ad  
It's never  
We beg  
Scream  
Thrash t

For wha

Pretty lit  
Just like



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We are the same.  
We're addicted to heartbreak  
It's never over  
We beg  
Scream  
Thrash the world around us

For what?

Pretty little scumbags  
Just like us.

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