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To an Auld Boy

Grief comes in waves
Though not like the sea
A violent retching
Pain struggling free

It changes perspective
A thing so profound
Yet so lonely, around you
Life, happiness abounds

I won't burden others
But can't do it alone
At night it is with me
To despair I am prone

I find myself thinking
Quite narcissistically so
That I should have prevented it
I couldn't have, though

Perhaps that is part of it
The grief and the pain
To realise you're powerless
That it will happen again

You learn early on
That everything dies
Yet somehow its separate
Thinly veiled, in disguise

Then someone you love
Withers and fades
And you realise it's real
Your mind it pervades

To have one last laugh together
Or hear you are proud
In those nights I'd give anything
My soul I'd have vowed

I know I was loved
And that you knew the same
In time, perhaps
I won't need something to blame

Something to fight
Or something to fix
That would bring the acceptance
The guidebook depicts

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You're just somewhere else
Not here with me now
You can't just have ceased
My mind won't allow

You deserved so much better
I'd change it all if I could
I'd be better, less selfish
Never be in a mood

Our time would be limited
But I wasn't to know
I took it for granted
That you'd help me grow

I'm helpless and scared
Without you to guide me
My unwavering protector
And now I, your devotee