**“A Dream Disturbed”**

Was my heart meant to be broken?”

“I have no life with you. I’m bored.”

He tossed random clothes and toiletries

In a scratched faux- leather suitcase

And I watched with a heavy heart.

“Don’t go!” I fell to my knees.

But with total detachment

He lugged his belongings

Into his four- wheel drive

Grey patches from winter snow.

I rubbed my eyes. Elated.

It had only been a dream

in black and white,,white and black.

As proof, his hairy arms around my waist.

Straightened out the rumpled sheets;

A palette-of pale pastels.

I picked up the pups, one in each hand.

Black and white balls of fluff

Opened the door to the yard

Gently placing them on the deck

to do their thing.

“Mommy, read me a story,

The one in which the elephant nests

for a bird that never returns.”

A child’s simple wants, never without

Dragging along the floor

Her tattered baby blanket,

Ripped and stained

worn and torn.

Cuddling onto our Tempur-Pedic

The same one her dad and I

Had been sleeping on all night.

It was just before dawn

Our eyelids slit into a slumber

Mommy, daddy and she.