

## Vanessa Carlton

### "Drowning"

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I'm drowning in sorrow and all the missed,  
I missed so many opportunities.  
How can I possibly find joy?

Small bits of life, of my life,  
The good old times,  
Can send a quick second of happiness  
Running through my body.  
But it never lasts.

It's not enough.  
That small sliver of light  
Doesn't make up for all the dark shadows  
Which encompass the entire room.

That small sliver makes the surrounding shadows  
appear darker.  
It makes the misery seem so much worse, so much  
more intense.  
I need a branch, something sturdy; not a sliver.  
Maybe a large branch of light would overtake the  
shadows.

The happiness doesn't seem to overtake  
The pool of misery and depression  
That I seem to be sinking in.

I need strength, I need to be heard.  
People seem to only want to listen  
Once they see the colors,  
Once the pain is visible.

I can't just be there for them,  
They need to be there, too.

Why don't they understand this isn't some game.  
You can't just quit and leave me to keep on going  
It's not the kind of thing that can be erased  
Abandonment is all your good for.

Times change and people change

But true friends are supposed to always be there,  
To always care. They're supposed to continuously  
Listen and take action,  
Save me as I drown.

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