

## Cara Salimando

### "Cigarette Smoke"

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I knew a girl made of cigarette smoke  
She wore winter around her like a warm overcoat  
And she'd write, and she'd smile  
And she'd write, and she'd laugh  
And the smoke was her own sense of peace

Saved her lucky for last and exhaled a wish  
That wisped and whispered, luminous  
It curled, quiet against the night sky, and lingered

She says,  
"Oh, baby breathe, baby please won't you breathe for  
me?  
I am losing you slowly, but I'm yours to keep"

She would fumble for her lighter and light herself up  
Nurse her vice between fingers that never knew lust  
Still she'd write, time to time  
She would manage a smile  
While her hope floats away in the breeze

She knew her luck couldn't last, still, she exhaled a  
wish  
That wisped and whispered, luminous  
It curled, quiet against the night sky  
And still lingers

She says,  
"Oh, baby breathe, baby please won't you breathe for  
me?  
I am losing you slowly, but I'm yours to keep"  
She says,  
"Oh, baby breathe, baby please won't you breathe for  
me?  
I am feeling so faithless, and so free, yeah, so free"

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