GONE

Jessica (Jaimee) Bellissimo*
M. A. Writing and Literature Program, Rivier College

I take in effigy
That which (you whom)
I cannot constantly possess.

Your shirts (in bed,
alone, with your cats)
Your socks (but only on weekends - heaven
forbid anyone at work see them on)
Your tea (strong and scented like smoked cloves I hate it)
But I make myself a cup,
in your clothes,
your cats around my ankles.

(These are things that mean nothing at all But) I must make do while You are gone.

^{*} **JESSICA** (**JAIMEE**) **BELLISSIMO** grew up in Tyngsboro and is currently a resident of Dracut, Mass. She is a graduate in English from UMass Amherst and is currently studying Writing and Literature from Rivier College. She works as a transportation manager for the MVRTA in Haverhill, Mass., and worked for UMass Transit in Amherst, Mass., before that. She has been published in *Penny Dreadful* and *The Hampshire Gazette* and is currently working on a collection of short stories.