

falling

you're falling apart in front of my eyes
falling

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w

n

there's nothing I can do

to help

you're too far gone

I hate it

I want to go back to when I was 5

and you could still

pick

me

up

back when you had the energy

to

be

with

me

back when you could

see me

clearly

back when your

brain wasn't

broken

and your limbs didn't

ache

and you could do

the things you wanted

to

back when you weren't unhappy

all

the

time

because you could be

all you wanted to

be

you used to not cry

as kids we're taught that

adults

never

cry

but I see you

past my phone

and I hear you

through my headphones

I love you

through my barrier
I almost don't want
to
love you
so it hurts less when
something happens
but I can't not love my dad
despite how much it would
hurt
if I were to lose
a part of you
I feel so selfish anytime I think of how
your disability
affects
me
how it would change my life
if
you're in a wheelchair
and I need to adapt
but i've already changed so much
I used to think
that everyone's dad
got injured nearly
weekly
that everyone's dad
couldn't walk up
stairs
or would
stumble and fall
through their houses
but I learned
my dad is
special
not everyone needs to worry
about what's going to happen to their dad
the next time he
falls
and no one is there
I need to worry that
the next time he hurts
might be his
last
maybe these thoughts aren't
reasonable
but they exist
and I can't stop them
they have been a constant
since I knew
what
your disability meant

when I was younger
you couldn't even tell
you had one
now my brother
can't play the games we played
I've stepped up
helped him have the childhood
I had
with a dad
who could still run around
but the truth is
I'm not his dad
I'm just his big sibling
I can't fill your shoes
no matter how hard I
try
I want to be there for him
the way you were
for me
I want him to know I'm there
I want you to know I'm there
even if I'm not strong enough
to help you back
up
to pick up your
pieces
when they fall
I'm not big enough to catch
you
too unstable
to carry
it all
for you