

## Another Piece of Me by Jennifer Lagier

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Mom declines,  
loses the ability  
to walk on her own,  
grows more confused.

Hospice checks her daily,  
records weight loss,  
evidence of internal bleeding,  
adds medications  
to ease breathing,  
lessen pain and anxiety.

She naps frequently  
throughout the day,  
sometimes nods off  
in mid-conversation.  
Saltine crackers,  
jello and broth,  
her only sustenance.

At night, methadone  
causes her to cry out  
from hallucinations.  
She insists phantom strangers  
walk through the room,  
asks if I too can see the writing  
scrolling over her walls.