

## Watermarks

last night  
I watched *The Notebook*  
and I couldn't stop the tears  
so why is it so hard  
to cry at a funeral

jl

memorial portrait  
in the living room  
keeps her company  
reading the evening  
news

rmb

I fall asleep  
with those words  
racing through my mind  
— a wall of text  
full of things left unsaid

jl

a dream  
standing ankle deep  
in floodwater  
the highwater mark  
waist high

rmb

the cold breathes me into  
asphyxiating bliss  
I kick and I scream  
as I slowly lose sight  
of you

jl

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Josh Lowe & Randy Brooks, Spring 2024