

Senses

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Scent of newborn wrapped in a knitted blanket
Watch her grow, first day of school
Track her on the playground, never a moment of rest
Chew on oatmeal raisin cookies baked together
Shut our eyes for hide-and-seek
Hear her cry, she skinned her knees
Cheer as she scores a goal
Carry her when she falls down
Run to catch up, now she's too fast
Clap and celebrate, it's graduation
Point to her suitcase, she is ready to pack
Hug her tight and hope she comes back
She walks to the gate, college here she comes
Reflex to wake her up for school, no longer there
Home feels off-balance, too quiet
Sharp pain from the tough goodbye
Cold sheets of her bed, now vacant
Buzz of the phone, could that be her
Soft touch of her yarn blanket
Person, Place, and Time: Mother, at home, waiting.

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