

## The Coming of Age and Love Remains

Ashley Moore

Her little toddler eyes twinkle  
Fully certain that the world is her own  
Every day is make-believe  
And the laughter falls all around her  
She is held and believed in  
And loved unconditionally

Her youthful eyes are strained  
From watching after a toddler that never tires  
Every day is an adventure  
And the pursuit for a better life drives her  
She is pulled and grown up  
A part of the climb

Her womanly eyes weary and tear up  
After raising her toddlers to maturity and letting go  
Every day is pressing on  
And the obligations never cease while the demands increase  
She is burdened and invincible  
Climbing with all her might

Her aged, wrinkled eyes are worn  
From 80 years of opening and closing, laughing and crying  
Every day is forgetting herself  
And the once wise woman becomes toddler innocent  
She is fading and fighting little  
Unaware of what she's losing  
Maybe it's better that she knows nothing--  
But that she is held and believed in  
And loved unconditionally