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Knowing

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Melissa Kalinowski

When you can't breathe
that's when you know
it has begun.

The chest constricts,
sub-zero temperatures don't affect you.

When he inches toward you
to express a quiet thought,
a reserved glance.

You back away in fear for
yourself
what you might do
what you want to lose:
control.

Never has my grin lay
across my face so easily
like lazy girls on beach towels
under an August sun.

Never have I wanted so much
to be tangled, bare, needing,
when you feel like every move
is a sacrifice, a surrender.

That's when you know.