

## **Back by Degrees**

**Music and Lyrics © 1999 Robert Edgar**

### **To my Dad**

Don't walk so far ahead.

Don't turn that corner so soon.

Don't let those crowds come  
between us.

Don't leave before I see where  
you're going.

I walked with you through the cities  
of America.

I shared with you your meals at your  
table.

I lost you all at once

Now I'm getting you back by  
degrees.

Don't run when the light is low.

Don't swim these murky seas.

Don't fade in this foggy night.

Don't rest on this earth and  
disappear.

We raced together in rusty Chicago  
taxis.

Stumbling like clowns across Ohio's  
frozen lakes.

And I lost you all at once

But I'm winning you back by  
degrees.

The Arizona desert's painted pink  
and sage.

Coyote yelps burn yellow in twilight's  
rampage.

The sun so dry and bright I had to  
squint my eyes.

When it dropped below the  
mountain's shelf

The air was chilled and you were  
gone. I swear.

The only person I found in the desert  
was my self.

### **Break**

Feel my song against my cheek.

I'll rest on your chest and hear your  
heart.

Open your eyes and find my voice.

Send a tear to say you don't want to  
go.

I'll walk with you through the cities of  
the world.

I'll dine with you on sagebrush and  
wine.

I'll etch your portrait in the furrows of  
my face.

I lost you all at once

Now I'm earning you back by  
degrees.

I'm earning you back by degrees.