Assignment: Memoir Poems- Create original memoir poem based on seed ideas taken from your original heart mapping activity at the beginning of the semester.

Just Silence

Branches tickling the window
send goose bumps down my spine.

Delicate raindrops touch the ground,
Chaos—paused with each ripple effect.

A clap of thunder echoes in my ear
and lightning becomes a Broadway show in the sky.

I pray for a rainbow
cuddling beneath my black fleece blanket
with the close-knit fibers warming my skin.

A black and white horror movie flashes on the T.V.
I push mute and read the subtitles
because I am frightened by the screams.

I close my eyes to escape the world around me
No noise...just silence.

This memoir is about shutting the world out for a brief minute and escaping the chaos. Sometimes life can be suffocating and we need to just take a step back and breathe. Since my Nana’s recent stroke I’ve felt lost and entrapped in a world of silence and helplessness. I often retreat to a place of memory and find comfort in the little things that surround me.
Jean Overalls

When I was four feet tall in jean overalls
I played house in the garage with my kitchen set
as I watched you ride by on your red mountain bike.
You taught me how to shoot a jump shot in the fall,
and together we laughed on the front porch step,
two young kids making the most of everyday.

At sixteen things were more complicated.
Hair cut short to my shoulders,
barely smiled as my mind was always wandering.
Home seemed so far away,
driving, driving—called you...no answer.

At eighteen I was out of my element,
worked to the bone with adult-like responsibilities,
always in sweats and sleep deprived.
Sitting upon the rocks, waves crashing beneath my feet,
you’ve been gone for months
what do you look like?

I watched you leave, mouth sewn shut,
memorizing the back of your head
as you slowly vanished like morning dew.
as I sit on my front porch I think of you,
wondering how and where you are,
hoping that one day we catch each other’s glance again.

This memoir is about a close friend who moved away, and I was left with nothing but a memory. I try to make sense of why he had to leave and wonder if he is feeling the same way I do. Days, months and years have went by, yet this event is so vivid in my mind.