

The Last One
Josh Oliver

Why didn't I realize it sooner?
Numbness does that
Makes you forget
Keeps you from thinking

Why did I remember it now?
Like after a numbingly drunken night
Remembering snapshots at random
Leaving me speechless

Something only I have
Looking back
I'm left with a clogged throat
And tears tearing through closed eyelids

It seemed so small
I was the last to go in
He in a chair, not the bed
Happy, healthy, recovering

Just a "goodnight"
A "see you in the morning"
But he wouldn't
Wouldn't see anything ever again

I never thought I'd be so grateful
To be last
Nothing can take that from me
The thought, infinitely in my mind

Hearing his last words
Being his last image
The last one to see his final moments
Truly alive