

# Stephen Gadbois

**tried to walk to get curry today and it's only a five minute walk  
but I had to stop before I even got to the edge of campus**

The alarm clock by my bed projects the time onto the ceiling.  
I haven't changed it since daylight savings time ended in November.  
I guess in a few days I won't have to.  
I keep a fan on my bed turned on high so I won't feel my heartbeat.  
Instead I'll just feel the fan rumbling.  
If I try hard enough I can usually feel my heartbeat.  
When I walk places it thuds harder than usual, as if a walk  
to get curry is more dangerous than drinking  
in a friend's apartment in Allston.  
Sometimes I feel like I won't be able to draw my next breath.  
I sniffle a lot because it makes each breath feel easier.  
I'd like to not worry about it and instead worry  
about how good you feel pressed up against me on a chair  
so close I can smell you.  
You smell like brand new books but also like  
hundred year-old first editions.  
Sometimes you make me forget but more often you just make it worse.