

Fireflies in July

by Scott Cimarusti

For my children

I can still remember the summers past
Beneath the evening sky
Your bright green eyes brimming with wonder
Watching fireflies in July.

You clapped and giggled and squealed with glee
Up on my shoulders high
Now it's time for bed, so say goodnight
To the fireflies in July.

Summer returned year after year
And time flew right on by
You grew taller, stronger and even more lovely
Chasing fireflies in July.

When I found you a jar and poked holes in the lid
“Thanks, Daddy”, was your reply
Then we ran through the yard laughing and giggling
Catching fireflies in July.

When we opened the jar and set them all free
That's when you started to cry
Then I hugged you tightly, feeling tears myself
Over fireflies in July.

I tried to explain that there comes a time
When we have to say good-bye
And let go of the people and things that we love
Like the fireflies in July.

Those summers and years went by so quickly
How fast the time does fly
I guess all good things must come to an end
Even fireflies in July.

I think back often to those nights long past
And I breathe a wistful sigh
My heart aches a little as I reminisce

About fireflies in July.

You're much older now with a girl of your own
And she's the apple of your eye
But you're still my girl and we'll always have
Our fireflies in July.