

**Bon Voyage**

The poet packs  
a suitcase that once  
belonged to her grandmother.  
Tattered and torn,  
a deep red brown color  
now known as the shade luggage  
in Lands End catalogs.  
It holds a few chapbooks,  
a toothbrush, a tube of red lipstick,  
several old movie stubs, 2 sweaters,  
4 t-shirts, a pair of jeans and  
a worn pair of pajama bottoms.  
As she snaps the buckles closed  
each one echoes  
once twice...  
go ahead and doubt something  
doubt it once, twice,  
but if you doubt it a third time  
realize that it may not  
have been true from the start.  
Always hold that which  
you hold dear.

--Sue Red