**Poetry Series** 

# Delilah Miller - poems -

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# Delilah Miller()

'The art of art, the glory of expression and the sunshine of the light of letters, is simplicity.'

-Walt Whitman

I think writing is my way of keeping it simple, of being honest with myself.

# 7 Deadly Pink Roses

We had this priest come and talk to us on the feast day of St. Joseph and so strangely he mentioned a girl would know the right guy because he'd be willing to sacrifice his dreams for hers and for God's. Not only am I not a god, requiring sacrifice, but my dreams so often don't follow the path I imagine God would dream of. I suppose, at one point, it's Him or me.

Seven deadly pink roses waiting on my windowsill; terrorized in their muted fuchsia, fiery spirit festering and still creeping slow on towards searing, greedy, hot red.

As if drinking, in the darkness of lower light and conscious my sleeping breaths morphed you into a grand prophet but I am not goddess, gold idol.

Are you looking for your god here? I am mud and a whisper of light; without sight and rich with fear. Searching for cosmic love, you kiss ornate images of starlight down dripping from heaven's favor into my bored eyes.

#### A Broom Against Messes

Nicely let him know, my mother insists. Silly woman doesn't have a thing, and 'tell him' she presses. For all the lies he told, I'll piece my efforts together and sing like a persistent canary or sighing Rapunzel, unraveling her tresses?

She talks but I see the night and go, just to tell the stars my wish. I want to be a simple gold ring glittering at the side of lovely dresses. Sometimes, I wish for a scream to overwhelm the quiet I have to sing with a soft open throat, swaying like a broom against messes

# A Child Born

My body is weak and unprepared. A baby feeding off me? Will I survive the gluttony and vanity? So I flood myself and whisper to walls A child should be born but I'm too scared.

# A Lighter Shade

To all my conquests, past, present and future.

My coffee cup's a lighter shade of blue this morning. Last night, I transformed you into scalding dark coffee. Now I can pour you into my cup, any time, day or night. Keeping my fingers on the cup ring; I'll sense when to stir, the amount of sugar you need, when to take a sip or let you cool off.

You melted in my voice, low and bright. There's never a honest warning; I'm a short, pudgy brunette, average with great lips and a slight tan to smooth over my thighs. With a sparkle I keep in my eyes, I'm charming, if not venomous, to the man without morals. Quietly, effectively, I show instead of tell. You just didn't realize I've got the right words, the achingly perfect images, the best details and the proper timing for an unbelievable kiss.

# A Lowly Thing Like You

'How many will say, 'forgive, ' and find a sort of absolution in the sound to hate a little longer! ' -Alfred Tennyson

The edge still leans out under my feet, quietly and politely, as if is an opened door or pulled out chair. I am the one shouting because it is forever, ever unfair. You're a destroyer, eating up the innocence you touch. They're just sorry and beat, too weary to tell their story. You wrote them to be silently smiling, a judge you work like a lawyer. The only vote is 'Yes.'

So a book is left unopened. The quiet persists. Your inky black charm stains purple and red and black on those who resist.

Imagining you getting out of bed, another day breathing your hate out, I have my doubts about my life being worth more than your death. A lowly thing like you never finds the light. Forever, you're sure you're right in assuming you deserve so much. Honestly, they deserve so much better.

# A Man's Love

A poetess can be wasteful when it comes to love. She'll wade and wallow through the waterfalls below and above. She'll sip big for ability's sake and swallow.

Like a sponge, not dripping a drop, she'll dip into resources, diving deeper, Never noticing what she's got She'll take all and label each a keeper.

A man's love is like water. If you discover a fountain and abuse the stream, the temperature is colder after it is hotter. I'll wake up one day to find I am thirsty and it was only a dream.

# A Prayer Of Responsibility

The sun rose and echoed through my white curtains. The flags above my bed say 'Om Mani Pad-me Hum' In the warm light, I want a miracle from a sun ray, chanting the song of compassion.

Blue, white, red, green, yellow flags seem to suggest compassion is not free from organization or an escape from the routines and name tags. Compassion is concretely a prayer of responsibility.

Bear the cross, say the chant, turn the other cheek because the last shall be the first to turn to the last and offer the endless chant (to the unwilling, they offer a curse) . Om Mani Pad-me Hum, spoken into my first real miraculous morning.

# A Sidewalk

I am a sidewalk that cannot handle another footstep; A bone that is too weak to be broken because it halted growth and from motion is kept. And I'm the game machine spitting out tokens.

The ocean floor is delightful in comparison to the covering upon my heart. Slowly, it bends to pressure, refusing my pull! I wait for you to disappoint me before you start.

The idea of stopping my own darkness mocks reality and propels hope into despondency. It's a mask on my face when I wish to wear it like a crest. I mean to tell the truth, and end up peddling destiny.

### Acrimony And Lace

I shook my apple right in your face, I fed you pomegranate seeds, one by one, until you choked up. I tied you up in promises subtle as lace.

And, like a flare, our whole fuse was lit, while you begged for a bite, just for a few moments until you figured me out. For that spark, I'm not sorry for any of it.

### Alive And Subtle

When is that last glimmering ray of sunlight shining in to illuminate that last corner? When is that last piece that actually fits right falling into place, the puzzle-joiner?

When is the last cloud leaving the sky, so it's calm and blue? When will that last needle stop weaving to show a finished dress that's fresh and new?

When is the last dropp going to drip down and make that splash to fill the puddle? When will the last word come around to make my poetry sweet, alive and subtle?

#### America Forever

For new possibilities new people, new places, there must be a new age. Transcendentalism must be reformed, for this fresh cage we linger in, high on forever.

We run our fingers across the bars; it's the sound of newspapers and tabloids, selling. The noise use to be structured verse; That was delicate language, for a rigid, old polite age. This is a merciless, strange cage made of the same hands, gripping each in isolation forever.

# An Improvised Note

I don't know the name, or purpose, of that voice climbing out of you, with its claws digging into the rocky wall of your throat. Cerulean secrets and crimson wishes for fame, you list off in the voice elongated and bottomless. When you sigh, breathing it out like an improvised note, the voice falls back into your sunken red stomach, still heavy with hunger.

# An Unbalanced Heart

It seems that when I was at my busiest point, treading water in this chaotic sea of estrogen, (that is my life) you managed to waste my time, make all these waves spin, and break my heart. One day, I was simply floating, sea and sky on the horizon line. Today, landscape is a mood, always tasting salt in my throat and nose, I feel myself open to sinking under the heavy weight of unbalanced heart and a pensive mind.

#### And Let It Stay That Way

Yes, it's not what people like to hear and yes, it's bad to be cynical. But I'm allowed my moments of doubt. In any case, I'm still a total flirt.

No one can catch a break, either women and men opened up wide. Oh, it's all in the same take: heavy hearts eating up his/her chest, co-dependence and a hand to hold, worry over whose going to love you best. We got to have someone keep us warm? When does it ever actually get that cold?

And there are hundreds of reasons, thousands of poems and songs, millions of worn-out claims billions of explanations as to why it all mattered. I don't think we even remember. Why was it worth all the dead dreams, the sacrifice, the loss, the ugly side of hope?

Don't even mention it. Don't mention the word, not to me. I worshiped, and I prayed. But betrayal and death holds so little sanctity.

# Another Girl, But I Can'T Complain

Have you ever seen the sky, when it's gourging with love that clouds cover it and the stars shine, peeking out, like a young girl's eyes?

And then cascades of raindrops like pearls, then another runs down your spine? But it is not rain; the downpour is too deliberate and glistening like memories of all your favorite girls.

Little puddles everywhere you know, formed by nights too beautiful to be true. The sky wants to sum up, size up and sympathize, similar to when you slip your fingers across the piano, and you squeeze my hand because you'll never let go... Maybe.

#### Another Stop Sign

As a habit I run fast, whenever I run, whether its to the end of the block or into a dorm.

If I stay still now, I could your cinnabun, And the flavor of cinnamon entices me, its taste as old and warm as the feeling of your sleeping breath when I lie next to your nutmeg body.

Love could be another stop sign I jog past but looking at you, my lungs have nothing left.

#### Ant Farm Life Won'T Make You Happy

Over the short years, we've fired comments at each other that were like deadly darts in the skin of some clever animal, long-ago immune, only faking tears And I will be a slightly evolved animal until my dying day.

At least, it was so until he threw an untainted spear into my ribs! 'You're too honest.' As if deception was his immunity! As if lies should be at the dart's end! So offensive was my naivete, thinking the dishonestly truly a poison.

What years had really happened? 'Don't be so hard on yourself.' he tells me as if I shook with fear, like you'd tell weakling to fool it. He'd drown Socrates, just so we can live like we're in a giant ant farm!

Now he calls, at least once a day, but he doesn't realize he is not calling not that faintly human creature, but a woman dead to him and his unexamined, worthless life...

# Appetite

He has an appetite sweet to satisfy. But he's so distant and curt, with painful goodbyes.

As the crescendo builds, it's blurry as a...A fantasy. But when the mist clears, I realize again, he doesn't love me.

#### Are You Itching?

I never feel THIS itchy, anxious and aggravated. No. I sit still every night. The sunshine is never too cold; never too long has the moon estivated. So I don't find my way through incessant tides of pity. I'm of a stable, ripe species, with no reason to hate this city.

And yet,

there's no connection to linger on, saying the phrases she wants to know. Only mistakes, to double back upon. I won't tell another soul the projects I've devastated and the words I stole.

Rainy days are easier because I've got a strong back. And yet, the sky music has a lull, Makes me think Can you get me off your mind? I try to get off track and my nerves get too full! My legs tingle, my lips smack.

My belly is twisting; it has secrets to spill soon. The itch is an awful ache to reach a conclusion. I've waited patiently, just for life to turn its back and leave me with no surprise or intrusion. All this time and finally I get it; human isolation is a delusion. One full moon, fertility rising through the stomach, overflowing a soul and you'll need to feel THIS itchy.

#### Bad Friends Are A Drag

When I felt good, I was just good enough for you. When I felt powerful, that was power for you to use, When I ran, you clung to my ankle.

Now I see you crawl, behind me, eternally, waiting for me to switch on my smile, waiting to be set free and on fire, because you're so soaked with your own keroscene, a slick and sharp-scented cruelty, that you can't stand your own smell. Are all the barbed comments (waiting to eat up my light, and seeking a nod no one quite gave you) still on your pinched lips?

Because I'm not there to hear them; I'm running, good and powerful, from a waste of time.

#### Be Teased

Just to clarify, this poem is about one guy, not all of them.

Oh please, you can't call me a tease. Don't touch me. I don't mean to be... Those white lace panties, the bra strap slipping down my arm, you weren't suppose to see.

See how I'm not a tease? The dinner was lovely. I'm sure your hunger will leave. besides, I am really shy, especially around such a big, strong guy whose so charming, so funny.

Now, I won't tease. Just don't gawk at me. Stop asking and saying please. You'd take advantage of something so young and soft. But you can keep on worshiping, from afar, and I might notice your diligence.

One day, I'll take you aside, just you, in some black bedroom with a tarnished bed. I could peal off the charm and the red lace and let you taste the cool mint of my skin and see a tummy, thighs... everything. I'd be willing to bet, despite my fiery eyes and full lips. you wouldn't be so in love with me. At the end of the night, you'd rather be teased.

#### **Beach Before You**

Red and sunburned shins, sepia shoulders, dark back, fairly tan face and a pale tummy. Taking stock of a little sun, I'm a big mess of color and a splatter of light, blurred beauty of Post-Impression. But I've got quick pink lips your imagination loves to cite.

So I'm a sun-drenched mess, and you ask 'Don't you wanna try? ' Try something loitering under my bed, hanging around my old journals? You're too late with a crappy offer. The sun has stained me, the sand's softness gained me and the ocean has detained me, until further notice. I'd rather be a chain of one, with the sunburned links than have you melting, in the palm of my hand, all over life and the kitchen sink.

# Black Cherry,121a

Is that NYC nail polish, color Black Cherry, the number 121A, too dark to be?

Or is it simply just way too dark to adorn chewed-down nails, caused by excess words, which spark a nervous laugh?

# **Black Licorice**

No. The word is so unpleasant, sweet most like black licorice. Some women chew it slowly and roll it off their tongues. The girls will spit it out... More often, I gulped down the bite and later, vomited disgust. I am going to forget on a dance floor tonight; you dislike the darkened city's street. Just no. That's the night when... Well, when the city's horizon is too bright that in comparison, your eyes are anemic. I think, 'It isn't so... You're not so eager, '

and I let that awful taste

slip from between my lips

into your soul's gaping wastebasket.

#### Blatant Hurt Me

You hurt me. Presently, not in the past. You hurt me. Your clawed words burn to slash.

You hurt me. Your confidence ruins mine. You hurt me. Where do you find the time?

You hurt me. You don't give one damn. You hurt me. I don't want you to be my man.

You hurt me. You're cruel and cold. You hurt me. The statement is getting old...

You hurt me. There's never a tear in your eye anytime. You hurt me. How much more blatantly can I say this line?

#### **Blue Sky Ideals**

Money is pretty evil but I think what eats up peace is the private struggles of men, less concrete adjective and concepts that the darkness whispers to us before we close eyes and mimic the final sleep.

It's the unmet expectations, eluding us, the concern for the person we hate most. the hunger for some lacquer to paint over wounds; it's the small hills of indecision, the desiring that our lives would stand still, smiling.

But I close my eyes to see the blue sky, where love and peace meet. Because writing this, I want no more part of it than you do.

#### Boy Who Stole My Heart

I suppose our love is the universal love. Your complacent gift of a red rose must have been grown for the sole purpose of being sniffed, lovingly, as eyes glowed back over the petals.

I understand if we part; it's the typical parting. Unbroken mirrors still stand, more fragile than my heart, for the sole purpose of reflecting tears, witness to my lonely bed of strong will.

However, I can see your visit is an unending visit. Your humble offering to me is exhausting work for the sole purpose of being adored, always, by the beating heart in your heart.

#### Breath Of God

They say write what you know, but I'm a little fed up with convetion at the moment. I wrote this as a wife, watching her dream marriage fall apart.

The warmth of my pink bedroom wall that I press my hand to, in the dark, ddin't seem so fixed or stark. My pillows being a feathery pair and all I'd condescend to them, 'One night, after I've turned off the light, my husband will later turn on the light, and we'll turn each other on and it'll be safe to turn the light off.' Yet, when I got his phone call, from an office he is probably not in, I opened my window to a cold breeze, to let in the dark, feeling a little more fixed, the contrast more stark. He's sure I'm the foot of his fall; I shiver, thinking, 'How clear is the breath of God, minty like disappointed lips, sighing through the screen, telling me I'll die alone.'

#### **Chicago Streets**

So good to be home and out of the heat. All those excess people reminded I'm alone as I explored the busy Chicago streets.

So good to be mild and not full of heat. All those old buildings reminded I'm only a child as I explored the ancient Chicago streets.

So good to be recognized and not sweating in the heat. All those dollars spent reminded me of the love I'm still denied. as I explored the poor Chicago streets.

So good to be back from running away and back from the heavy, humid heat. All of the luggage and vacations reminded me problems come to stay. as I left, for a long time, those Chicago streets.

# Cloudy Bell Jar

Someone remind me it's a beautiful life; even if it's the ground keeping you the right way up.

Trip yourself, pat down yourself, unwind yourself and brush off yourself. I do it all like I've done for everyone else.

The bubble of loneliness always seems ready to pop while I try to give it a happier name, As in art, light and movement persist to never stay the same, Watching summer fade out of my skin and my eyes and the air I breath. Still the ground's under me and I'm under a huge cloudy bell jar.

# Cold Kitchen Dreams

Cold kitchen. Colder day, Coldest women lay in the living room, living without their kin. Clear evening, Clutching my hands, seems like clearer skin Clearest hint in what they say. Careful now, go slow and whisper low, More careful than you could have been You'll see the most careful being cared away. Collective and care-free, Counting my words, and you don't even see. What a strange state I'm in; I'll just go. Because home being thousands of miles away, how could you know? Creeping away...Promised you'd stay. Creative...Another inconsistency it seems. So I guess that I am... I'm living with these cold kitchen dreams.

#### College Town: New Season, New Place

A new season in a new place means the trees not only litter sidewalks and lawns with crumbling leaves changed red, orange and gold, but change location and number, opening fields anew and covering streets of old.

A new season in a new place means your new friends not only discuss unheard-of hobbies, strange streets, mysterious landmarks and exclusive food and dessert but they say it with twisted and foreign words, their speech full of slang and comfort.

A new season in a new place means you trade what home is: the quick and hot wind, rich and sharp cilantro, sun-washed skin and laughing ocean there for here, with the sinuous woods, crisper apples, clouds heavy with rain and smiles full of greater care.

# Content

A smile on a glowing face. How many people have felt content and never said a word out loud? How many of us tell the world our malcontent and in 'doing our duty' felt proud?

Tell people how happy they make you! What if we had contentment cards? Get rid of complaint numbers and lines. Do you always fill out a complaint card? Contentment is a string of pearls, waiting to reveal it's shine

## Crazy Me On A Bus Ride

Do they exist? Because I didn't exist to them until I stepped on the bus. I won't exist after I step off; I'll be a short image they might have not even noticed or acknowledged.

I feel like I can't touch people; we're in a small space and everyone seems universes away. Just flashes or pictures of people that maybe happen, far from this trolley stop and this city.

We don't want to be moved but this trolley moves us. We don't want to be touched but the seats are filled and we're bumping each other. I didn't want to go but I got on, sat down, stared out the window and watched the moving picture show.

Green backpack, black bow hats, blue jeans, a tired pink sweater are blending together on this unstable, over-used melting pot

And I don't want to be in cold gunk, the human race. I want to be scooped up and gulped down by a higher begin, delighted and privileged to be in a godly stomach.

#### Creative Writing: I Am Poem

In every purse I've got, it's always the same tube of lip-gloss. It's the Cherry lip-gloss that's colorless, shiny. Doesn't matter to me, if people want to call it bold, cheap, lazy, pretty, free.

Hey, that's me. An intimidating tube-full of confidence and gloss. Chivalry died and made me the boss. But I'm just another Baby doll.

Made in America. Made of bold, rosy cheeks, Cheap glass eyes, lazy pink fingertips pretty bright hair, and an unhappy pout on these little lips because I'm free to say nothing at all.

Because if you really looked in that purse that I carry around like 'the curse' if you tried this lipstick on you, you still wouldn't believe the damage I can do. You wouldn't believe I've worn a black dress. And you couldn't love me if you could see that I'm just a mess.

## **Crossing With My Eyes Closed**

Something bubbles up in me, when some poem, with too much accuracy paints too clear a portrait. Laugh because I am echoing my reflection, in the black and white austerity of some flat, breathless book. With a little distance the image is too cloudy, but when Kinnell spoke so freely in 'Rapture' and her stoic face when she's overwhelmed, so wonderfully moved and he spoke of me... Or just so closely, that I felt safe in such a blessing. I crossed the street with my eyes closed, like I was daring anyone, to take such rarity, a muse, from her loneliness in the bright sun.

#### Decided To Be A Poet

We are poets. We are going to tell each other how to live? Waking up each morning, How many remember how to truly give?

We are young poets. Blinking and shielding shock from new light Youth is a burden, a silencer on a pistol; How many will open my eyes if they are shut too tight?

We are trusting poets.

Innocence is certainty and a content smile. If we are frowning at swallowing media's new information, Others grin their wide grin and call Concern a child.

We are political poets.

How can someone be on one side or another? Reading and watching two sides of a clipped story, How can it be one side takes a different lesson than the other?

We are defeated poets. We have given in to the Tao. Your action only harms and enjoys. All your work ethic and overtime desires desecrate the 'now'.

## Do I Sound Feminist?

'Leave the pretty women to men without imagination.' -Proust

Silly men, drunk, staring at my... They don't know I want to be alone. I'm going to be alone, forever and forever because men can be so...

Nothing to help you from fires of hell. There are no heroes in eternal torment. I'd wish deep pain upon those who look at me like already his...

People can be So wasteful, to use time on me. So greedy, to lock up, shut down, shop around. So helpless, when they're alone, and they can only stare,

## Don'T Say Goddess If You'Re Not Ready

Just goes to show you can't be open with anyone.

The second you are ...

He is convinced you are already won.

If you think I'm so pretty, if I'm such a goddess...

Treat me like one.

Did anyone who wasn't divine ever touch Aphrodite, beauty at it's best? No.

What happened to the man who witnessed Artemis bathing and hungered after her caress?

He was turned into a deer and was killed by his own hunting dogs.

Who was the one man that Athena fell in love with, for all her pride and finesse? He was a demi-god who was the greatest hunter among humans.

And he was blinded, I think, and turned into a constellation that shined above the bear, but a little less.

Just goes to show there never something for nothing.

If, in all seriousness, I'm a prize to you, win it!

Because only Cupid, and Apollo, Poseidon and Zeus had that limitless lust, only an appreciation for beauty and zeal,

leading to affairs with nymphs, and girls, and women and goats.

Surely they gazed at their wives and lovers with equal fire.

But you'll never find a scintillating goddess without a test.

#### Erin's Idea Of Me

If you read this, and find it's not my usual style, you're correct. This is a poem my best friend wrote about me and I liked the odd quirks and pretty imagery she used. Of course, I'm biased. Anyway, I played with her lines and broke them up to give them a different feel. Let me know what you think and I'll let her know!

How can I tell you and make you believe that the curve of your hip and the plateau of your backside is no less than those Botticelli transcribed?

How can I tell you and make you believe that that slightly arched eyebrow and ever pondering eye trying to find meaning in a hopeless epic is no less than beautiful?

How can I tell you and make you believe the fact that your laugh, at once light-hearted and ever well-intentioned is the soundtrack of your audible heart?

## Eventually, Always Is

It's not too 'poetic' but it's what I was thinking in my head and as much as some sanctimonious, impractical writers would pretend, I don't think in poems

Teeth pull the words back; I've just bit my tongue! That means I'm using a measure of tact. A minute ago, I KNEW had you, stutter and sigh; we were edging around fun. And I was thinking, wow, Won't you be mine? And now, your hand is warm, calloused fact. Such an unpredictable, calm guy. Eventually I'll be all yours.

## Everybody, There's One Symbol

Oh, sweetheart, don't you ever worry about me. Heaven is just a giant puzzle piece; all these centuries and I finally see love is an electric candle. Thanks to Neruda, I'm going to put my poem in a jar or give it a handle.

I am Lazarus, reborn on notebook paper; tell the virgin the whore doesn't hate her.

Let there be God, the One, or I'm someone's One? Altars break as easily as people do, so what is the messenger? Take away this goddamn gavel! I listen to Rumi, Faulkner, Whitman, Jack Kerouac mumbles, never stands and Allen Ginsberg howls, while I play Tchaikovsky or Chopin because the past must go on...

So go tell the whore that the virgin will no longer hate her; I'll write her names out on the paper.

Do you hear the trumpet? Or is it Poe's mad bells, ringing in the cathedral of Hell? I'm laughing because there's only one symbol; fire, it's either on or off. Don't make her wait because you won't see her at the pearly gates. It's only the throat that matters... Another generation, another pen and sheet of paper. Everyone is the same person, so I won't hate her...

## Feels As Real As It Should

A tap a pinch, a poke, a caress.. It's all the same and it has ceased to do very much.

Feels just like it should.

Maybe I'm out of touch Out of range and disadvantaged of having the best. I'm here to taste that first apple; are you sweet or tart, smooth or rough?

Feels just like you said it would.

I want to get experience, Addiction's candy. I'm coming unarmed, sugar or spice. I love when you shut up and it's us and the sounds of Life burning up and soaring to, it is reckless climax

We beg for that feeling, hoping we'd feel good if we could.

# Fin

To explain the last line, fin is french for end.

I want out. Feeling sad all the time. Struggling to seem fine. Praying so hard for a sign. Desperation taking over my mind. I want out of it, away from you. I can't handle the exceptions and the doubts.

But I'll stay in. There's wind and cold out there. And the world gets more and more unfair. I am in till the very bitter fin.

## **First Shower Home**

The first shower home, you are
Falling away from me like coin slipping into a gutter.
The soapy bubbles of your quick-pop! -kisses slide down
my legs, toes, the dark drain and pop-pop drown.
Cheap candy-pink shampoo conquers my hair;
the oils of your soft fingers scurry away;
water elopes with the breath on my ears left by your gasps and mutters
Your fingers dive intp the tab, to stick instead to there.

Washing away you, the first shower leaves traces that nod and depart with the next deluge of soap. Walk back to the water you wash in, you came from, drink life from.

I am water, but not the Well, and to the shower we must both come.

## Fishing

Just another one whom I can't trust. Another one of God's sons who can't stop making a fuss.

He'll smile and joke when I frown and cry. He'll shovel out advice till he's broke but say what you want, truth or lie.

He'll point out your perfection and flatly deny your flaws. He'll be shocked at your rejection; he was, secretly, the be-all-end-all.

He's really very nice to befriend but he's just another desperate, unhappy fish in the sea Under all that water, how could he really listen? How can you ever stop fishing?

# Girl Half Full

I didn't need Bob's judgemental eyes And I told him so. Because I was in between grief, self control, anger and other abstract words. I could tell he really knows that I'm ready to cry at the dropp of a leaf, because they're the same color as Mike's crazy ties.

Let's talk about it, let's lighten your soul. Let's not, I just want to hear holy words. What, you've never ached before? I told Bob to stop with the knowing sighs, because I know he's grieved before, perhaps even more. I can't fight the tears anymore; I told Bob I never felt so empty; he told me I'm a glass half full.

During my dead boyfriend's funeral, I know Bob, the funeral director, would drink me if he could. I say it quietly, something dry and tart. And Bob touches my waist and I feel, instead of decency, Bob's breath, hot as hell, on my cheek as he remarks that my dead boyfriend would've said so. But then again, I loved Mike's judgemental eyes because I always looked, especially in black, so damn good.

#### God The Silkworm

Since it is all relative... The universe is silk, woven with threads of light. Cosmic silk worms twist in cocoons, spinning strings of energy that reverberate into the darkness, each strand wiggling to the first violin's tune.

The strings stretch into the black abysses we have not yet photographed, touched. They are woven into tight balls, planets and stars, all in the dark. Only the ancient methodology is working to spin The small strings into elements, the smaller strings into atoms smallest strings into electrons, then quarks.

Stars draw the fabric into a seam, and pin the pieces of cosmos together. Each celestial body placed like a piece in chess.

The planets sink into the soft black, creating waves and orbits to spin upon, we call the folds gravity and string theory lines up the cosmic mess.

But I think God must be a giant silkworm, who spins the threads of energy and He is the voice that whisper light into being as the galaxies are forever forming, to quench our thirst for new frontiers. The planets' dye seeps from colors in His palms. And He must be the tailor who sew the universe; He is the violinist playing a new melody to each string to float on and rolls us around the sun as the stars call us into seeing.

## **Goodnight You**

Goodnight, you. I'll see you in the moonlight.

I'll wink at your star If you dream about mine. I'll joke about the distance, how far, If you're looking for me, but not looking behind.

Well you're up so high And I'm not too tall Without those heels I've always wanted to buy But I've put it off; I know how much you don't like the mall.

Goodnight, you. Can we say goodbye without saying we're through?

It is the goodnight you I always get, daily and nightly I toss and turn, and for who? I see you in the sky, and you're traveling rightly

So goodnight you. I'll see you in the moonlight. I can't look for the day's bite

#### Grande Amor

O Grande Amor, take me somewhere beautiful. Wrap me in rocking rhythms and breathy low notes, and speak to me, in a pretty language I don't understand.

Play your piano hands into places where my heart is sore; let maracas whisper into my ear, rustling my soul. Wrap me in the voice that warms like layers of coats, and kiss gently with lips that appreciate golden skin like no other man.

#### **Group Subconscious**

Thousands of voices, in the unlit part of the city, called out to foretell the empty choices left to green monsters, blue veins and arteries, grey eyes full of dust and burs, and oily red lips, no longer in a pout.

Someone paint glow-in-the-dark, all across my desperate chest; No, I didn't understand the buildings falling apart, gunshots self inflicted then hidden away, cracked asphalt, watching the stoplights crash down where they may. It was too painful to put out my shivering hand!

Yes! I waited in the shadows, rubbing my aches, to plan a first victory or let the clouds kiss my nose. I wasn't going to be a monster, but mystery led to a huge beast, Doubt. I won't remember how the church song goes. All I've waited for so honestly patiently, is that SOMEONE just stop the hurried decay surrounding me.

## Happy Enough To Never Write Again

It almost breaks my heart! I could break my own heart with the swelling joy. Today, I convinced myself I have never truly fallen in love, at least with anybody else.

And now that I never felt love, I can stop writing about it. I can stop writing. So I'll try not to write anymore, ever again. Because I wasn't any good or didn't ever like it? Because I never fell in love with the pen.

#### Harvest The Clouds

The clouds are pulling at the corners. My perfect blue sky, (pinned in place with barbed comments, hot tears, half-burnt bridges and a fine-tuned defense) clouding over like a crowded dance floor. Bloated, jittery hormones and fog machines are working over my blue tones.

I want instead to harvest the clouds, peel them and pour the bright frothy juice into your proud, pink throat. These clouds, planted and pruned by your nervous hands, hang like honeysuckle, under which other flowers are doomed. So I choose to speak now, over-dramatic and aberrant, because, after all, can't words keep away a few clouds?

## Have My Doubts

You are not going to charm me. I am free. I am pretty. I am crafty. I won't be enchanted by anybody.

You do not enthrall me. I am exciting. I am picky. I am entertaining. I won't be swallowed up by physical trickery.

You do not reach me.

I am petty.

I am judging.

I am addicting.

I won't be shown any differently.

So take your guilt trips and hinting And get the hell out. Because I have my doubts, and they're really all about me.

#### Having To React

Let's be honest. And I mean honest, the kind you choke when saying but you say it, maybe even shout it; there's a whoosh sound, a cold feeling that runs through your limbs and you feel the word 'bright' like you've spat orange paint on a pink purple sunset.

Let's be two-colored-checkered honest like you've cleared the chess pieces right off your opponent's face. Honestly, I've written to write you off, or cover it up, and there's a game we've played to see who survives longest by keeping his or her mouth shut.

Forgive me, or don't, if I want to see the way you look at me when you look at me like you've swallowed something you shouldn't have. One night, you did, so I wrapped your hand slowly in mine. Your face disappeared! Your eyes actually looked trustworthy and decisive.

But you're not; I'm just fixated and the toothpaste is foaming out of your mouth like past and future lies coated on your tongue. I'm just stunned (maybe it's meant to distract) by all the ways you find to keep from having to react.

## He Lets Me Call Him Jim

I've got no other reason to love him, other than... He lets me! Always, and signs his notes Jim, the only straight writing out of the whole wayward page. He puts on jazz, laughing like it rains, and lets me dance and hold out my hand. The times he takes it, the extra thirty -six years of his life sniff their worthlessness, and walk out the door envying me, growling at me and him; he is seventeen all over again. And I, I am an eternal surprise to Jim. My skin is still tight, but I won't say silly things and I'll ask him to borrow just one more book ... And he rewards me with that cascading laugh, when I catch pure Jim sneaking a look.

#### Heart Of Hearts

I need to write. I think I want to write. I hurt my knee tonight and the blood leaked out, red. It was dark like pomegranate or apple, the forbidden fruit. Blood must be the color of sin and the color stuck in my head. It flows in my head; in my heart of heart it flows, the red pumps in.

I wonder whose seen such red. Red showered across battlefields. Those shed too much red are dead, some red on their own hands or walls. Too much sin and you're out, a lifetime of strikes. The game I thought about, the 'necessary evil' of war and torture, How communal is the red sin that even my heart of hearts pumps red in.

And out. The red flows out. My blood is a whisper from a shout and the red turns blue fast. Blue is the sea, and what it means to me is calm but changing; whose changing? Red goes in and out And I thought about, when you 'can't have the good without the bad' If the world worked like it should, we'd know it was good.

Like your taste buds know sweet without sour. I'm full of red and I need it to live. But it will not change Unless I put the bandage on, if I have the power, change a bleeding world, to stop this sin that's swirling in me, pouring out. Red comes, hear it shout, as my heart of hearts pumps red sin back in.

#### He's Just Too Cool

You're way too cool for me.

It's the way you're better dressed than me in a loose AF tee and aviator shades, flashing like your smile, that gets me so hot and itchy.

It's way you never work too hard for what you want, but instead kick back like such a jerk.

It's the way you drive so fast, and laugh at the swerving cars behind that makes me jealous of the cars you do past.

You're way to cool for me. I believe it, if you don't.

It's the way you never talk politics or poetry and tell me I'm too old for my age instead you hide your intelligence so I don't take you seriously.

It's the way you kiss my cheek too much and tell me you don't miss me that gets my panties in a bunch.

It's the way you let me play hard to get, while you lie about all the others you have, that gets me secretly in a fit.

You're way too cool for me.

And I wish you could be stopped or proven wrong every time you convince me that you want me and when you take me somewhere to flaunt me but you're so cool, and you and I together just belong.

#### Home Plate, Unsure Of The Order Of The Bases

This is a moment I've dug out of you. Shining blue, the shade of pale neon of whitened teeth, your eyes are naturally... Brown. It doesn't matter to me.

Your skin reflects all the bracelets I'm jingling with, sounding an insane gypsy dance. My family learned the steps before gold jewelry, and somehow kept it around. Ancestors, I'm grateful, if only for this man's twisted grin on his carmine lips; the challenge settles down and festers.

So many times, sitting across your lap, I've struck at you, with similar eyes turned blue, a pick axe jabbing into a sunny California river stone. This moment has a gem to offer me, My breathy tone hits again; I only have one more step, one more dig, my pink lips to your carmine.

But I'm so far away from home, where I struck gold with random facts, closed-mouth smiles and my photographic memory. With all this history sitting on your lap, you manage to say, 'I hate the sound of bangles.' The delivery was accompanied by a glorious sneer. My sigh was the sound of hundreds of years stretching and failing.

#### Honey Love

All this honey love, feeling honey sweet among my fingers and toes, chin and nose. All this honey love, dripping from between. from under and below and above, that is so golden and sticky. You and Me, We're those mysteriously close bees. Our bodies too sticky to leave this making a comb of honey. Just the word and I'm shining like that topaz drink. And my body glows golden, and the spicy thickness is to be heard For sure. Do you taste too? I wonder as I further sink. I won't sting you if it's love you send. The honey sweet, amber reflection in a jar of honey that you gave, as a love treat, that shimmering honey jar love you made for me.

## Hopeful

So this is my first free write of my Creative Writing class. And I know it's crazy verse that doesn't make sense; it was originally just straight prose that I cut up. But the feeling was like furiously writing down a poem and having it make perfect sense. I like it, so here it is:

Hopeful for everything I've ever wanted. Hopeful that vulnerability will stay away. Will it be long enough to write what I want to say?

Hope is there above fear, above noncompliance, above insecurity, and blazing through competition and defiance.

My heart is going to shatter with all this hope that I'm drinking from her voice. Always I've been a pessimist with an optimistic soul. Let it go! Let me out! Let it shine!

Because hope is a deep brilliance that no can see; I wanted to keep it a secret, but I can't.

This must be the joy that Neruda felt when he saw his socks, or salt or books and penned his odes. This is the joy that Lazarus felt when he opened his eyes again to sunshine and a friend's face. This is the hope in re-birth. Good karma will come back to me in rich love.

I am brimming full of hopeful. I'll wake up to bright, dormant Hope sleeping next to me. I'll wrap myself in its blanket, warm and secure.

# Нуре

Your love is hype. Your life is hype. You like to say the honest thing but you're a sunken cost. Cost is what I need to be cutting; Consider yourself no longer my type.

# I Can Stand Where You Stand

We do not need each other but the only place I can stand to be, is anywhere with you at my side every night and most days.

While we go through your life, (so planned and so stable) hold me in the palm of your hand, (your rich and warm hand that's so able) so at cross-ways, on freeways and for always I can stand where you stand.

## I Let Me Get In Your Way

I let my distaste of you get in the way. Knowing I could get more flies with honey, I still let vinegar linger in whatever I say.

I let my affection for you get in the way. Knowing better than to compromise or settle I still do not ever hold out for a better pay.

I let my frustration at you get in the way. Knowing you search for spotlight, I still allow anger, giving that over-sized lamp the chance to stay.

I let distrust of you get in the way. Knowing you'd hold Atlas's load in my name, I still rush to get tomorrow's work done today.

I let me get in your way. I knew who you were the second I heard you speak. And I still let my contradictions dictate my moral decay

# I Woke Up In Your Doorway

I woke up in your doorway, south of angry east of nothing to say west of running wildly north of another day.

It use to be okay, just between you and me, that I never got my way, or that I took your spoonful of hypocrisy, and you kept me distant, your love at bay.

But I woke up on the dirty doorway, with a city's footprints on me, without even an amount I could pay. You shut your windows, a ruler with a decree. And I got my lesson handed to me on a tarnished, used-up silver tray.

### Ideas Of Fashion And Love

An original Chanel dress says 'I never have to be me.' With waves or a bob in her hair, a girl can say 'Life is perfectly fair.' White or folding gold, flirty with high shoulders and plunging neckline, it says 'I'm impervious to time.'

So I tried on you,

your white skin and gold waves. I thought, 'Gosh, the money I'll save.' And time did roll out at my feet, until everything was perfectly equal. The insistent pulsing of your heartbeat said ' There's no need for sequel.'

I forgot that with the utmost tenderness, you can outgrow any dress of any cut or any designer. No matter how slimming you are, or how you bring my eyes out, you never stopped being so far. As if I fell in love with clothes or a purse, your skin was a slight grade finer. You were never more than an object, shedded easily and casting unintentional shadows of doubt on my ideas of fashion and love.

## I'LI Allow It

'Je suis fou au sujet de vos lèvres.'

I knew we'd be together one day. Say whatever you want, you really can't hurt me. while you love me, I just don't mind who you need to be in order to stay.

Not at all, I don't mind. This house will travel, will you chose to wander. When it comes to your side, I'm as close as you need, every time.

I'm writing only at night. My day is yours so I stay in the other room; I don't want to wake you, because your breath is perfectly steady, to make my lungs keep working right.

You know I just don't care. Think of my rosy lips as the red carpet; step where you like, they remain for you, as long as you're there.

## Immaturity Keeps You From Me

When the past is done, and the ink from a stamped hand is scrubbed off; the stench of new toys and taste of cotton candy is no longer fun, Would I catch your glance? Because shorter lines, with no time to think and no way to truly decide, makes for such a smaller mind! And you still won't take your eyes off paper...

When you can no longer chew your lip, your nails have lost all length and luster, and Life offers you her cup, begs you to have a sip, Perhaps it'll be too late to save her.

# In Your Dad's Spanglish

Tuck my waist under some dark, steady hand because so far tonight isn't enough. You're sloppy drunk again, speaking in your dad's Spanglish, smoking some clove cigarettes, lingeringly, like an old man. and calling me by different names of your old neighborhood friends. When he leads, I'm certain to understand because he lets me close enough. You get further into every cup, compelling me to step out of the chaos; you're slumping

if you can forget Cuba, and recall how to stand up.

www.PoemHunter.com - The World's Poetry Archive

and whispering

**Delilah Miller** 

the lyrics to "Ran Can Can". I stop dancing and wonder

## **Independence Is Weightless**

Independence. Dance! Because it is a command. Because truth happens, without anyone telling. Dignity is placed with chance.

But not today. Grand and golden, rich with day! Oh reaching is easy when you're weightless. With so much opportunity, freedom...An elephant could float away.

## Infidelity Is A Tilting Fun House

It gets late, like it is, it gets darker, but colors get brighter and I do too. It's when the phone call comes, after he returns me home, squeezing my arm to say 'Remember, I didn't kiss you; I remember you and his all-nighters.'

I will remember, when I'm halfway out of my window floating towards a reviving engine. The door opens and the click of it is like the light switch flicking on, my eyes weak and my head spins.

He'll watch my hips settle in the seat, my neck tilt as I tuck back my hair, my arms as they come together. No model of adoration, just a set of eyes in the dark. The car closes in, a fun house twirling and jilting forever.

That is when I'll remember, the hazy porch and how he didn't kiss me. His fingers tapped against the wheel, spiders impatient at the web I've woven. Only a little lean towards my seat and I'll know he's waited; My warm waxy lips deserve his mouth's unique seal. A little moonlight, and we don't regret the lips we've chosen.

### Kids Who Write

Take seriously all these kids who write, classified ' with the 'Crazy dreamers' soaking up perception, tasting fresh new fights. You had to remember What's a boundary to a wondering schemer? After all, put the words there and follows an itch to string them into insight. And, I got to laugh and listen with a stare assenting with the opinion and the wisdom of those who have 'lived' and survived the generations' plight. Because my youth is recognizable And my intelligence is manageable (education is an adding sum). But poetry... why would it be any less than yours? Because as the years pass, you learn different lessons in simpler times.

And I may keep my passion and capricious nature.

You listened when the world chimed,

told you to cool off, that the colors should be a blur.

As for me,

I'm young.

I want to be passionate; I will stay bold

I want brightness that can be seen.

And in my words, a unbiased smile your mouth can't help but hold.

Keep the 'you' in young,

it's there for a reason.

Why should you patronize and condescend?

Keep your training wheels on, you'll need them in any season.

### **Kiss The Mirror**

You have nothing, so you chew, over and over, your identity. Your lips are covered in ink from licking your poetry. No one has got THAT kind of integrity. You kiss the mirror;

You love the hype and your tongue is raw and you think the sky is purple and floating tall because, bottom line here: you wrote clouds to be like that.

### Know What You'Re Doing

Your eyes get stuck on my hands, every few minutes, and there they lie to linger as long as they can.

Your knees move a little farther apart. as you jiggle and swing your keys, to give you an idea on how to start.

You get comfortable and so do I. You don't know what you're doing yet. And neither do I, without a smile on which to rely. Our sanity is fine; it's self-control that is we haven't kept.

We're so ungrounded and shaky, the wind will snatch us up any minute. I guess this the hurricane of spontaneity; You're sincere so I can't see any wrong in it.

Then suddenly, I know your next move and the plan, before you even know yourself. Gently and without insinuation, you are taking my hand And deciding to comfort me because for me, there is no one else.

# Life Is The Longest

The newest excuse, 'Life is just too short.' When the fact is, life has never been longer. Because we find a new way to stretch and contort the appearance of life. What has anyone done that is longer than life? Who has done more than live and die?

### Lost Can Mend?

After it's all over, and I have lost; did not end up with the item I treasured or the boy I wanted the most, My life goes on. Doesn't it? I hear the birds and I wake to their songs? Don't I? And people are anywhere I walk along. Aren't they? Did I hurt my chances? Wasn't it the end? Did I miss his comment, or the not-so-subtle glances? Or could it be that lost can mend?

## Love Lessons Learned In Chemistry

Chemistry class, block two consists of electrons, Mendeleev's table and a few beakers. The room is surrounded, right across the hall are the religion class and the student speakers.

Had a lab today, looking at the relationship of reactants to products, composed with magnesium chloride and sodium hydroxide. A girl picked up a flask, that over the years from multiple reactions, accumulated hairline fissures it hides.

The glass look polished and conclusive;

it's painted numbers visible, precise and sane in measuring matter. Wouldn't have a second thought to grab such necessary item and squeeze. but I swear you brush my lips, and I know I'll shatter.

Because the surface is unforeseeable!

It's as simple as my temper, quietly fiery glass on a cool, stoical surface like your composure, will snap and burst.

Oh, ironic is fragility in me discovered in chemistry class...

And perhaps we all go through life,

Steady for storming and precipitating and reacting.

and we settle down to use, to being someone's husband or wife....

Until a hint of pressure causes a burst, and sends us, brokenly, packing

### Love Might Just Be A Photograph

We're some sort of photo shoot: you hungrily clicking away, me testing a thousand different poses, swirls and blending dabs of chaos, as a background. The flash is wearing me down.

Rarely, I'm allowed to see the only pictures you've formed of me when you sigh at my insecurity and talk dirty. Your great vision is a shot of me where I'm black-and-white; seems the details are no longer important.

Getting ready in dawn's light, I saw that my lipstick is dwindling. I think I've done a lot, for you. It's eating up what I've got, and you're already worn out. I've heard love survives, but in photos more than in reality.

## Love Of 2 Novas

Implode, sizzle, then simmer.

Oh, how I wish

this was a game for both saint and sinners.

Off balanced, shaking, then slip.

If only the night I shined

had come with a shinier tip.

Clamor, sobs, then simpers.

The noise and the acapella

that lingers still sounds, growing all the dimmer.

Two countries abhor to overlap and adore to float.

Who let one lamp's puddle mix with another?

Two stars are never too close.

Like us, pearly smiles flashing at each other,

One will always burst with power, while the other devastates its shimmer.

# Lying To Your Best Choice?

I know when you're lying. Because blunt weight hits my chest, I hate you, even if you hate to see me crying, for throwing me another ball to juggle for you, not hearing my voice, weary with unrest!

I always know when you're lying. Because your eyes never linger east or west, I hate you for your dissapointed sighing, telling me denials I don't want to hear anymore, promising this is the last test.

I know how you love lying.

Because you think you are protecting those wounds, still so fresh I hate you letting me catch you trying, refusing to be close to a flame that only warms you. and the girl who understands you best.

## Math For The Real World

Eighty times seeing the world Times fifty times fighting equals the same person, folded in Four thousand different outfits, houses, bodies (four thousand times three then) . Thirty wait for a smile that is inviting and for seventy of your hundred attributes, people leave you in a cruel, lazy swirl.

And yet, the outliers shoot from the mean. with a rising confidence level equal the same person, ninety-eight, ninety-five, ninety in all abundance of teaspoon lives. It's not so rare to cling to pillows and revel in math of millions of wall colors, inbetween the fifty times falling back into love and dreams.

### Miles And Miles And Miles

This is the last of our nights. On of the last nights you'll ever ruin. You've seen that I was never too far. The closer you came, I wanted always the same, always wanted miles, and miles and miles and miles away from your bedroom bar and the words 'a man's rights'

You made me into a war zone. Now, my head is up while I am Still grabbing friends' hands and still sacred of losing, I am choosing. Dead in my soul, you're a weight to bear across the miles, miles and miles and miles. In many different places I will stand, your voice is only an echo; I will be free, alone.

#### 'Moods Erase Me'

I hear your crying, raining drops on my mind. Surprisingly, when I walk out this time, laughing at you stuck above it feels like love...

My mouth moves, without meaning so I hurt you; I couldn't mean it.

Your palms carved out a space, just for my cold hand. My big scarf, when words shift like sand. My tongue wants to offer a dove because it feels like love...

### My Best For You

I dream of your world. It's that one big oyster where you're the pearl.

It's a world of unwritten regulations. Loopholes exist so as not suffer from temptation.

Pain comes only when called, but not if it can. And your needs, people exponentially understand.

Charm is the new love and everyone gives in. Diversity is only language; psychical looks are thrown into the garbage bins.

Jealousy and pride need not be swallowed or recanted. The real sins are infidelity and the inability to be enchanted.

I fantasize about tearing it apart with my teeth and hands, Of showing you a real human, a real woman and man.

I'd shred your dreams Because their glow is a sick and annoying scene.

A warning light would go off in your mind And you'd realize that souls aren't easy to bind.

But in the end, I listen to your calls during late nights: You claim you're on my mind and you're right.

Controlling my anger might be the best I can do but I can be my best with you.

## My Own Skin Reabsorbed

Some people are just eager to be alone with photographs, or empty houses, or the roving tires on the car. There's no anchor in me; every honest face that meets my eyes, I could leave behind. In the safe places I've staid, faces like those broke; ice and winds hushed away everything until I wandered unaffected in crumbling hallways. Please don't call out for me to wait. When I hear that, the skin on my feet melts, folds itself up in a dresser.

Nothing calls me away,

and I'm too tired of the concept of fate;

Destiny is wanting to feel completeness,

my own skin reabsorbed.

If I only feel that, so far, in a quiet room

perhaps it is solitude that is eager for me to stay.

### My Sisters And Me

Red is for our monthly blood, never respected. Purple is for our majesty, as queens of mystery. That's why a big red and purple tent is where we'd come to be, the women of the world and me.

We'd pat each other's thighs just to say 'How good these came to be.' Enjoy your fertility, the old would say; We'd nibble on sweet pomegranate, my sisters and me.

Mothers or barren woman, I'd touch their stomachs quietly reminding each of their incredible power, belonging only to women, to me.

If we happened to bleed, we'd sing a high, clear song harmoniously, to celebrate the cleanliness or our bodies, a promise to my sisters and me.

But that tent was long and far ago, before virginity overruled mystery, before we were valued by our silence, as brides are sold even now. So every night I send up a cry for the women, my sisters and me.

### My White Skirt

'Through our own recovered innocence we discern the innocence of our neighbors.'

-Henry David Thoreau

See this white skirt? I won't worry as long as this skirt swishes at my smooth knees, rippling and laughing, like a bright and silent flirt. You're going to cut your pinkie, as always, you're never alert.

I won't think of consequences, piling up, dirtying me like mud caking. Treat me like a princess, or like a sheet set, but my life is a big mess and you don't have a big enough net for me to believe you won't leave me hanging, forsaken.

Your calloused fingers slide down the chords. The guitar, then our lips, a final squeeze. You sweat and quake; I hold you at the end of an invisible sword. But the room is rearranging, but I'm not hoping. Not yet. I am shaken,

not ready to be forsaken.

The next step means either hating you or faking. That bleeding finger spouts on my skirt. then skin and it's dark red like sin! I'm still shaking, this was just a daydream I was remaking and I'm shaken unwilling to be swept off, to be taken. It makes me shiver cold, and I want to put up a hand, end the nightmare, or put you on ice, on hold, instead of hearing an echo of a heart breaking...

### My Wrist Is Watery And Blue

The thin skin of my wrist and palm looks like silk, a layer or two. It's only silk, or sheer cotton wrapped over pulsing veins and muscle tissue.

Sometimes, he kisses my wrist, noticing the blue etching, the smooth raised lines and the frailty it points to.

Tracing the contours, the watery, fragility of my skin I run it down his dark, tight arm. He tucks me into his chest, assuring me of his true penchant. I forgive him. With skin like this, he could doubt my strength and virtue. This skin, the control of it, had made him as weak and indifferent as when my wrist moves with his.

#### No Charm, Please

See this palm here? You love me, it says right here, in the flesh and bone writing of your hand.

A thousand dancing gypsies and the angelic rivers quiver with life. All in this palm. All because the lines so readable and I like the marble veining in your palm.

And me? This hand appreciates all your smiles. These legs adore your quick, wide steps. This waist will melt for only your arms.

Don't say my name and I won't say your name. Your palm is a palace of round red tiles, smelling of leather, the soft kind that is so pliable it has no charm.

Charm is honey, sweet for the mind. This is a good hand, a good arm, nice and wide lap, unattached to and uncaring for that brain, full of a thousand point A's and lines.

#### No More Suicidal Poetry!

I am mortal and I have no ties to the immortal... But as mortal, I breath in death at busy sidewalks, smoky alleys and speeding elevators. So let me speak for death because it and I are close. I am endless in death, and death strengths in me.

So let me speak for it. (we whisper to each other, watching the television news) Death swelled up its chest, proud in its ancient hands, and like death always says, said 'You are pretentious and empty! '

Angry, I accused death of jealousy and greed. Death nodded to the familiar argument (I think its knows our hearts by now) . 'I do not take anyone who does not have to die.' stated Death, calmly. Then it asked, did I wanted to embrace it, kiss it? I smiled as if it was my suitor. 'Why, at times, Death.'

The coffee spoon swirled around the cup, once, then twice. I reminded him 'At times' (death is around less and less lately) . Death smiled with victorious teeth, 'Then you are pretentious, thinking I am punishment. Your brain functions for you to live! And yet, it punishes you, saying I'd be better. I don't come until I am called.' My smile shattered; he was right! I'm not going to relate it all, because it was lengthy hours death and I spent murmuring over coffee. We laughed at suicidal poems because humans don't know how live. But I will tell you one thing. Death set his forehead against mine and spoke into my eyes. It didn't blink as it explained 'I was molded in a blue, gold, red abyss. And creation told me my purpose. I am here so humans live, live deeply. But you don't! You paint me black, waiting for me. Or I am covered in green grass.'

Then it promised to come someday only when it could no longer live without me. Only a nod could I manage, remembering loved ones it had romanced. But it grinned and looked away and I knew it didn't want me as much as I had wanted it once.

### No Sense Of Proportion

My art teacher skirts around me, makes a Jimi Hendrix joke and keeps his eyes down. The paintings of red women, he doesn't get. The sketches of thin gray legs above bulbous purple bodies, he doesn't like.

My art teacher repeats himself, makes the same jokes, perhaps painting the same canvases. He thinks I love drawing because I'm devoted to distortion. I paint what I see. Truth is he shouldn't have put me in Painting; I've got no sense of proportion.

## Nobody Will Hate Reading

This is the time to write. Nobody listening Nobody in my mind Nobody to remember.

It's time to write, because I clawed, at my vanity, I beat against such a big wall, maybe getting at the tower of... Blank Cd's and a bed that swallowed me up, a gushing river and I... Used my hands to tear... Right into an echoing smile that sits on my lips, like the idiot who talks in another's voice.

It was only my closet whispering and my clothes that said What would I have left? From the woman I can't change to the girls who'd change me, what would I have left? A marble of honesty, to shoot across silent universe? Shedding coats, with symbolism my ancestors painstakingly took millenniums to create and the clever little poet's cliches and emotions. So this is the time to write, when nobody is reading

and nobody will hate reading what I hate writing.

## Ode To The Unique In Everyone

But where, my mystery and moon, Where can find someone And someone soon Who's anything like you?

Who has a smile like the dawn,

lips pulling back to reveal a barely pink tongue, and a luminous voice? Whose lips are as suited for meeting another's, or to greet anyone cheek to cheek?

Whose face is as victorious when it falls back laughing, or throws someone a peek?

Where are the eyes like the swirling life beneath the ocean, fresh as the greenflowered lawn.

It's not so effortless; how could you make a choice?

Whose soul is as expressive, and shines as secretly? Anyone else dives into the game, and stand upon the auction block, Willingly and simply embracing expectations as free. Who could we find who would step lightly, And not allow us to hear him, Before he caught someone, enchanted her, and consigned eternity away, if only to hear her talk.

Who can do reach like you do? Who cries and dances like you do? Never has anyone seen your solitude. Never can anyone be as graceful and precious as you can.

You are unique, Blessed and refusing of the pedestal. And everything you claim to be, constantly held true. Oh, someday, when you are his world; you'll see. Never be lonely because of your soul there's one only.

### **Older Is Wiser?**

Older most finitely does not mean wiser. Because you have years and days on me; the way you act, you'd think experience was a miser, who lends no lesson for situations solved.

### Ones That Use You

Somehow, when his heart is a wreck and the latest girl didn't keep the vows. he ends up here, ruminating without regret.

So I do my duty; make him laugh and plan every sentence and it works not to be myself, at least not truly; he will be gone soon, running without repentance.

Because I'm flattered now when I'm the 'Hail Mary', the go-to-girl soon I will be bitter, in love somehow; Then he'll be raving about the One who makes his world.

Still I roll my eyes when he makes me declare 'I love you too.' and he watches, thinking I'll hang onto the lies; Even if I could, you can't love the ones who use you.

### Passion Is Easy.

Tilting and swaying your hips; Simple. Talking, but don't use your voice, just your lips; Anyone could do it. Swinging your head to the beat; Encoded onto you already. Feeling the ground electrify underneath your feet... Your beauty was meant to melt mountains.

Ecstatic dance isn't hard. Escape yourself in the name of Freedom, in the name of Hope. Getting carried away can leave you happy and far.

Passion is easy.

It's never hard to do what you want; never to much to cope. It is Love that's hard, you see.

#### **Phoenix-Minded**

If you open you eyes, And I'm gone, It means you've read my poem. Perhaps, now, You feel the flame I swallowed. And it heats intensity back to your eyes. So much so that the Ocean is Sufficient, far from the lowest choice. I think you'll find, however much That I am gone.

You'd see me If you listened to our song. But it sears you too, Doesn't it? The cool disinterest in your speckled eyes! Can they steal away the fires of Hope, Or redemption Chasing themselves around your heart.

That aqua color couldn't save me... Still, I'll rise in the flames, none yours. My fire. So should you fear passion Of my own?

#### Phone Message

If that phone rings across the other line, just one more time, I don't know how much longer I can keep my mind. Because you're not going to pick up, I'll end up again hanging up. If I have to hear a message machine the only directive I can leave is 'Shut up! '

Honestly,

it's ending me and that's not enough.

And the energy it takes to dial, to wait,

is too much.

There's no brick wall to challenge, but there's no place to go.

You think it's altruistic how you can't say straight no.

Being that compassionate,

You're the most blatant, victorious dishonesty I know.

Just say the deferential words you have to.

I'm so tired of hearing them from your phone.

## Please, Don'T Call Me An Artist

Mozart might have hated me. My mind never mastered a genius a talent, even a skill. In all pursuits of silly rhymes I swallowed sunny air and twirled in sweet oceans. My legs just ticked away time.

Perhaps I ought have stayed there, Because now, my words slip! The hand holding heaven says 'You've stayed too long at the fair.' And it's so fucking unfair Because they can use a cliche. I want to be misty nights, clouded over and never have to clear stars away.

Instead, I get a little distance and a nice pen, like I'll implode one autumn day into tiny scraps of paper with big vocabulary and blurry phrases and people, they won't wonder why I insisted on eating up all my pages.

#### Run Her Maze

It's been said (hasn't it) that there are girls you don't marry. Too much like Roman candles, she fiecerly melts your resistance and you're so reluctant, the skin you had to taste starts to taste a bit like lemons.

You run her maze; she gives you resentment to carry. You get so angry; she grins to see you deny it, like she does every day. Problematic, pretty and wild, isn't she? Or is it that she's surprisely sensual and never quite beautiful? A cloth a shade too dark, too bright a painting to see every day hanging in your kitchen.

### Scream Or Whisper, You'Re Still Lazy

If that's the way I like it, that's the attitude I'll work it with. I like to dance and I'll make you move with me. It's that simple and you are that mystified.

How long? How much longer do I have to circle around, while you lean in doorways and insist women are a enigma? No, puzzles are pieced together; you will have me waiting forever. You must be hungry, your ego is growling at me. That door frame, it will always carry you better. My softest kiss and timeliest efforts shouldn't have to be spoken. I'm reminding you of gilded tokens.

I mean, I was. You're still lazy.

# Silence Is Not Just Being Quiet

So many people have got to tell you something, eagerly spilling out their religion, their stories, experiences, favorites and finds. They must forward their ideas. They scream their biographies in classrooms, websites, coffee shops and in lines.

Alone, only, are we safe from the eternal noise of us, our thousand discussions that fill the atomosphere and says nothing at all.

Hoever, after a blessed and unconscious silence We walk out of our beds and into our televisions; its noise and all that blue chatter makes us feel at home. Silence is to stop communicating, affirming; insisting that we're correct is insisting that we matter.

## Sky-Minded

Blue sky, blue sky.

Looking at you, wishing the day by.

Blue sky, purple sky.

Storm coming in, here it is, there's the eye.

Blue sky, grey sky.

The earth is wailing, the thunder yells, and the clouds cry.

Blue sky, grey sky, black sky.

Tore away at the moon, swallowed stars, listened to the sun die.

Black sky Green sky Orange sky Red sky Pink and yellow and mean sky.

Come on and roll in; it's only in my mind.

## **Sleepless Wife**

So many things remind him of his ex, every day, his attention is completely conditional. With all his glorious wounds, he rolls in salt, like it is his ex girlfriend's sheets, with a last note of pheromones in the cotton. He wants to catch all the old passion in one just an armful.

He says I'm not one to talk; I can't talk because I suffered. Perhaps, I suffered because I didn't talk. But I did not talk, more than an explanation and a smirk, a smile of the grandest indifference. Now, the silence creeps in and out; my words wash over him with less and less significance

If he'd listen to me,

he might hear that the year that tore down my wall,

that exposed me to the dark untrustworthy world,

I got the best grades yet.

So write me off,

because it's hypocritical to survive.

Or burn the bed

because she burned it long ago.

She watched him sighing into a filmy pillow,

like I do now,

complacently playing the no-nonsense husband ignoring his living, breathing sleepless wife.

# So Far

So far, You are a dream I had once when a silver moon glinted across the window, holding a warm running car.

So far, You are a rocky beat of a Jamaican love song where a woman's smoky voice wafted through the bar.

So far, You are... You're a simple, shining tube of lip-gloss that was drained and crushed, till the glitter was marred.

And right now

this dawn, till this evening to the beginning of the end of days,

you are all the things I cannot remember.

And everything I've changed or left,

might have have been a grain of sand,

washed away from the beach we ran across, sprinting wildly to become gone from the hourglass.

You have been the porch swing in a melody that I didn't believe in. And the thousands paintbrushes of colors I didn't understand.

So far We are Disaster, and beauty and all in that glass case you display me in Because, in all certainty, You and I don't know how to love me.

### Soaking In Algae, Burning With 'sunset Orange'

Thanks to Ivan Donn Carswell for all his help and corrections. He's an amazing poet, happens to be posted on this site; look him up.

The music stretched out its notes; waves spread from the water like a skirt between sky and sand. The colors were dizzy the dusk we lied on the beach, soaking in the smell of algae and our skin colored the burning orange of sunset. We were so mutable; our tingling hands almost became a pebble, or each other, or a cap of foam. It was the Earth's first night after the Earth's first day, when the moon realized people would sleep under her. Titling my head back took effort; my brain was dancing inside its dome. Never do I want to close my eyes again. The moon will pull me up like the tides so my toes touch stars and their shimmering motes. Spinning on the beach, I saw thousands of words no other words can rhyme with.

### Starting That Summer Romance

I don't have the time I used to when I had the time to dare, dream, lie on the beach, speaking in-out ocean talk with your towel underneath.

The time it takes, days of awkard silences and staring at a mouth you're learning to listen to. You're offering me days too few, too treasured. They will become jewels in my fist, too heavy to carry away, too precious to leave unmeasured.

# Still Shivering

It's simple but I need to get back into my poetry mind set.

Look past my smiles and I'm still shivering. Give me some time to dry clear the tears, shake the shock off my body, find the feet to stand, and feel out the darkest fears. The world will once again be mine.

# Tell It To Me

There is another great, green snake in your mouth. Crawling and sprawling to fill the newest silence, caused by your newest doubt. A whole new serpent, Listening and christening you as the newest, brightest miscreant. At our feet they lie in a pile Squeezing us until we're wheezing for a breath of our true selves, or a kiss to last a mile! Problems on your mind, and diplomacy in your throat, Blocking and talking to me, instead of you, unwrapped from a sugar coat.

Don't let that dark python gulp you down! Swallow and follow it with a shot of tequila, then whiskey. Drop that snakeskin bag and come swallow me.

# The Backlight Burned

Yes, I have hung up, in the darkness of the room, 'no' all around me. Watching the cell phone, the backlight burns as a spark. Then the screen, gives up; as if a light burned out, it is sudden dark.

It is the night, again, it is Over. The porch light rests and the dogs no longer bark. Pupils gap open, wide fading sighs. My eyes know it's the end of all things, like the beginning I did not witness. As I look towards a celing I can't see, this darkness must be what it's like to die.

## The Beehive

Open your blessed throats, honeybees of routine. I will tell it all to you, only to you, because I'm a Siren of two seas, love and monotony. I know not one better than the other, one lingers in the other. I have only the earth, and its Time as my eternal mother.

Shed the colors of your coats, drones of a charlatan queen. Let me drown you in blue, soft, rocking blue. Soon, you'll be intoxicated, no, renewed and renovated in simple frame of your skeleton. With velvet fruit and luscious grass, my voice will build you out of sweet grass. It's only my words, but still a voice to keep between your clothes when warmth won't last.

# The Same Old Doubt

How do I explain that your hunger frightens me? The tightness of your touch enters my mind, rushing, squeezes my heart and it beats, beating far too fast, too much, until I feel that in your hand, it'll fall apart.

Weakness seems to saturate me; As you jump in, my breath jumps out! A thought comes barely whispering; you're trying to imprint words on my skin and the breath returns as 'Run! ', the same old doubt and I feel you'll destroy me if I let you in.

# Things I Could Have Forgiven

You're someone else, somewhere else again. And you're fanning away my words with a gentle, inattentive breath. but I didn't call to be angry. I can't be. You've told me I'm beautiful...And the Moon is out. And I wonder if that's where you are, my friend. I could forgive a stargazer, A wandering eye for constellations. I could forget an intimacy With the Milky Way, and, how could you have resisted Venus orbiting across your window there?

I, after all, haven't been faithful ceaselessly.

I play around between the sheets

Of paper, spare and scattered.

I have love affairs, deceiving my pen for my pencil.

And I wonder, maybe, if his imagination doesn't roam so easily.

If you were somewhere else,

in the nest of heaven,

Stretching your soft, feathery wings

To learn how to fly back to me, through the blue and gold.

I could have pardoned your

inattentiveness,

Your selfish need and frustrating logic.

Perhaps you're out there as I'm in here,

Where the moon circles across the window everywhere.

# **Those Ineluctable Sticky Spots**

'Sucking too hard on your lollipop, oh, love's gonna get you down.' Mika

All that's left are feelings like sticky traces lingering in the empty candy pot. Gone are dreams of a gingerbread home someplace filled and trimmed with with every sweet life has in stock. Gone are your ooey-gooey whispers of affection that dripped from your lips enough to make your teeth rot. My sweetest loving couldn't feed your growing appetite, and you ate it all up like I was your candy shop. Soon all my sugar had no rush, only the sickness of eating candy enough to make you pop. Now, there's only a hollow in my chest, lined with those ineluctable sticky spots gathering dust and teardrops.

# **Thoughts On Humanity**

Mortality is so blatant and apparent, It's the red light when we really need the green. It fails to be merciful or contrite as it gives us the hook to takes us out of the scene

### **Time-Framed**

What have I done? What did I ever think I would do? Nothing like this... I never thought that, please be convinced of it. What is this sin I ever thought pardonable? But that's just it! I never thought...Why think? Time would have allowed me the mistake, Sooner rather than lately. She didn't stop me...She made me! It set me up...And tunneled beneath me. So tricky, brilliant, so planned, it was so sneaky! How could she? To her, I was perfect as a painting... Unknowing, mysterious, pretty...Framed. It let me stretch my wings, all the while knowing my wings were clipped.

# To Every Walking Girl.

Oh, the lies you spew! The rhymes you pen, promises made, bank loans, and wedding rings, and I.... All duplicities that soon fade.

Silver-tongued and shimmering, in sunlight gold and green, you slice my chest, Part my lips and I taste metal, cold as a silver ring. A hand in my hand, a mess in my mess.

The accusation you distribute; false down to details. Proclamations and rewards you recruit: Untrue to each whom rise or fail. Three accustomed words and monogamy to boot. You, shockingly, are entirely untrue. To me; to the moon, the sky and stars, and the sun; to every walking girl. And even to you.

# To My Dear, Freedom

To my most dear and prized possession, freedom. I've given everything to be free and I don't regret it.

In the beginning, I felt I had failed, (crying into crumpled papers and thrown-out wedding rice) 'Pull my leg, grab my hand, or squeeze me. Just tell me I'm stuck like a peg; you wouldn't be wrong.' Lovingly, I stole glances like I could've been jailed. 'Get my attention; I'm eager to pay it all to you.' Wanting to paint you up a song, I got mixed up with pride and pretension. And I found falling free, found you, tucked away so privately deep in me, like melody in a lark. Just when I sat in an ash pile the phoenix tried and failed, you burnt me up so I'd glow in the dark. The price of everything paid to you, a laughable fee for the most sacred and eternal engine.

# **Uncertainty Leads To Questions**

It's Friday already. I've been working 10 days in a row. My mind has fled me; I guess it had somewhere else to go.

It's Friday morning, a half a hour into the day. I've just deleted over 50 poems on this website. Those poems were silly, not famous, and had nothing to say; I feel like I'm a self-loather and someone blew out my inner light.

Who cares what damn day it was or is going to be. I'm a loser in every moon ray, starlight and sunbeam. I CANNOT write and I am discouraged already. Where did I go? Why aren't I happy and where are my dreams?

# **Unimpressive Poets**

We are those people, abusers performers, accusers adorers.

We write as the victim; We are chained to our thoughts' constant expression. I'd give it up in a minute for a little bit of fun... Or beauty instead of brains, or even to make a good first impression.

But the only impressions, the only indentations, Are the ones my pen makes across paper; I know the feeling so well, the words are all recitation.

### Valentine's Day

Covered in: Big red hearts and purple candy and pink roses, magenta balloons and an old melody and creamy white cards.

Not another day will I fake disbelieving or insist on cynicism, My smile isn't always deceiving; I'll tell the truth: I love Valentines day.

My chest throbs like the giant red hearts My hope blossoms and dies like those soft roses.

# Watch The Pink Fingernails

Watch the pink fingernails, painted "Coral Carousel", a sunset on the tips shining like a new form of raptures. But a sun is always sinking on those fingers gripping the pen whose midnight ink is chanting "no" again and again and again, almost as persistent as her pallor, hanging like a blank screen. So capricious next to her cloudy eyes, that pink shouts the "yes" of the daylight its color captures; it flashes shades of purples joyfully as letters shoot up and bend. They move as bright spots against a dark signature.