

Prayer to Af, Angel of Anger

By Rebecca N. McKinnon

Loyalty's an exchange, not a sacrifice
Didn't realize that what you meant by
I'll always have your back
was that you'd stab me in it
Here I am
you sloppy smiling sinister sad sucker
Bleeding out but standing up
A brand new world surrounding me
Thought I couldn't face you
But I underestimated myself
And you underestimated me
Gravity tugging at my tired body
trying to keep me on a taut leash
trying to drag me to your hell
Everything inside me is out
swirling around me in gorgeous wisps
of beauty and pain
One in the same
You've reminded me where I came from
You've reminded me who I am
You've reminded me who I can be
Perfect blood in the cut
Mind the gap of my mouth
The entrance, the exit
Gasping and grasping at the air around
Searching for a stronghold
that I must instead find in myself
on my own two blistered feet
Pieces of me are missing
Snatched out of reality
Dissolved in my desire
My vengeance is my reemergence
My revenge is my fortitude
I am almost ready to reach over my shoulder
and twist the blade free
reveling relishing recording the pain of it
The blood between my fingers
is mine to draw lines with now
Slamming the tip of your sword
into the dirt all around me

Daring you with my eyes to cross
Taking one inhale deep as the universe
we'd inhabited
Lifting my broken body up, higher
See what happens if you come near again
you slimy sleazy selfish son of a bitch
We cared for each other
conditionally