



LOVE,
THE
MONSTER
IN THE
CLOSET

ASHER FAUN

Love, the Monster in the Closet

By

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Dedication

*For the little kid
who didn't think they'd
make it out alive.*

We did it.

Epigraph

Hello

You don't have to be afraid

I'm only telling the truth

On second thought

Maybe you should run

BLEEDING EYES TREMBLING HANDS

ODE TO THE WORDS I NEVER WROTE

The poem I will never start

The poem I will never finish

The words spilled out

Wiped up, rewritten

Deleted and forgotten

Tip of my tongue

Never ending river

Never ending flood

Creating

Destroying

Never enough

Always too much

The flood

And the drought

Always unfinished

THE UNHEARD PRAYER

Midnight strikes

And all I can ask is

God, forgive me

Trembling lips whisper prayers

Shaking hands clasp tightly

I can feel my prayer

Fly through the walls

Take a turn in the clouds

Nosedive with frozen wings

And land on your doorstep

It curls into itself and shivers

I feel it die unheard

ON LOSS

You were always there
A constant companion
My closest friend
I'm so sorry

It was getting too bad
You were nearing the end
My closest friend
I'm so sorry

The ground was cold
The air was cold
You were cold
We buried you beneath
A blanket of stars
To guide you

I cannot see the stars
They went with you
The moon remains
She always does
But I do not know the way

Without you, I'm lost

My closest friend

I'm so sorry

GOODBYE

You left

And I am still here

I do not blame you

They dig, again

Again, I am small

The dirt pile grows

And I shrink

We've been here before

It doesn't get easier

9-1-1

Am I still breathing?

Lungs deflated

Inflated

Punctured

Puncture wounds

Stitched shut

Still bleeding

I can't breathe

My blood or hers?

Call an ambulance

Call a hearse

LITTLE MORE (THAN NOTHING)

I'm losing my mind

And you blame it on me

But is it truly my fault?

When I hear what they say

How far ahead of me they are

That colleges want well-rounded

Robots who are in a million clubs

That play sports and get top grades

All screws and bolts and motor oil

But I am not that

Because I think and I feel and I *bleed*

I bleed all the reasons I'm not good enough

I bleed all the reasons I don't love myself

I bleed all the reasons I won't make it in the world

And I lose my mind a little more

A little more

Blame it on me

A little more

Hate myself

A little more

Break my mind

A little more

Bleed

A little more

MY NAME

Office supplies

Turned into art

Paperclip smiles

Push-pin buttons

Sticky-note clothing

What is my name?

Just another file

A shuffled paper

I could not sit still

You tied me down

What is my name?

Stapled my feet

To the ground beneath

This monster

That you call a desk

You took my dream

Dipped it in ink

Now a paperweight

What is my name?

The smile carved

Into my cheeks

Ignoring my tears

Throat singed with coffee

Burns to speak

I do not speak

What is my name?

I am manufactured

Mass produced

Strings attached

Face pained on

What is my name?

Just another carbon copy

Just another file

ROBOTS

Pale faces

Dead eyes

Illuminated by harsh lights

Muted colors

Staggered steps

Everyone is always the same

“I’m different”

And yet

The mold is left unbroken

YOUTH

Little child,
Dreaming of dragons
Wishing for adventure
Choose your battles
Before they choose you

Oh, the gold
They didn't tell you
That it was cursed

"You have too much
Talent / brainpower / etc.
To let it go to waste"
I'm sorry,
I didn't know
That I was obligated
To be extraordinary

Little child,
Don't you know
That you never
Had a choice

Little child,
Don't you know
That you never
Had a chance

WARNING LABELS

They didn't tell me
How much it would hurt
Oh, how I needed a warning

To love someone
To build courage to tell them
To fail so spectacularly

We were not art
It was not beautiful nor poetic
It was just painful

STICKERS

The finality of stickers
Is a hard-learned lesson as a child
But one that lasts a lifetime

The disappointment when you realize
That you've placed it in the wrong spot
And that once removed
It will never work the same

When I realized that once put up
They were stuck there for good
I stopped putting stickers up
I was afraid I'd mess them up

And when I got older
They wondered
Why I had commitment issues

NIGHTMARE I – OPEN WOUNDS

Sometimes I wonder
If you think I'm lying
Or if you think I do it
Just for attention

I'm so tired
Always on the verge
Of falling asleep
Always on the verge
Of falling away

Can you feel it
When I wake up?
The hollow-point pain
Phantoms of ghosts of whispers
Screaming for an end to my sanity
Gnawing at what once was
Mauling what will be

I look in the mirror
And wonder where I went

ON SPECULATION

Let's talk about why I don't sleep

Maybe it's the way the screams
Seem to resound off the walls
Of the prison cell that is my mind
Even while I am wide awake

Maybe it's all that red
Coating the walls, the floor, the knife
Baptizing me in an ocean of sorrow
As I try desperately not to drown

Maybe it's the air squeezing from my lungs
As I claw at my throat begging for air
While the noose tightens, the water deepens,
And I learn what it feels like to die

Maybe I have insomnia
Maybe I'm just scared
Of what I might see

A I R

I can't breathe

I can't breathe

This is what it feels like

To drown without water

I can't breathe

I can't breathe

My mind is spinning

My chest is tight

I can't breathe

I can't breathe

My vision is fading

With eyes wide open

I can't breathe

I can't breathe

Don't tell me it's in my head

I already know that

I can't breathe

I can't breathe

You want to help

But don't know how

But don't know why

I can't breathe

I can't breathe

I can't breathe

I can't breathe

And you don't know how to help

CHOREOGRAPHY

I never should have told you

I never should have let you in

I can see you watching

Watching

Watching

You can see me breaking

Breaking

Breaking

S t o p

Don't let me fall

I can't trust you

S t o p

Pull on my strings

Watch me dance

S t o p

I know the steps

I know the lyrics

S t o p

I know the lies

I know the lies

I know the lies

Just make it stop

DEJA VU

In kindergarten I stood tall
Dressed in a pink dress
And my favorite shoes
In front of the whole class
So excited to give the daily announcements

You picked up my skirt
The teacher did nothing
I stopped wearing that dress
I didn't give the announcements again

In eighth grade we met again
After I'd forgotten who you were
And I thought you were nice
I really did like you
I thought we could have a future together

You stopped talking to me
Stopped putting in effort
Started talking to someone else
Started loving someone else
I'd forgotten who you are

TONGUE TWISTER

I'll shut up

I'll shut up

I should stop talking

Stop

Stop

Stop

Stop Talking

Chit chat

Chit chat

Shut up

Shut up

Shut up

Cut out my tongue

I don't want it anymore

MIDNIGHT WONDERINGS

Some nights I wonder
How the stars continue burning
With nothing to feed them

Other nights I am reminded
That I, too, drown myself in flame
Just to prove that I exist

I wonder if the ancient gods
Born of fire and ash
Are reduced to what they came from

I wonder if they watch us
And if they regret
Ever touching fire

Ever making us

OPEN PRAYER

Shaking hands

Clasped in prayer

“Oh god,

I want to change”

Sinning lips

Sinning hands

Soot-black soul

“Was I ever

Truly clean?”

I won't ask

For forgiveness

That train left

Long ago

There was an angel

Who loved you so much,

He couldn't bring himself

To love humanity

Long ago

You cast him out

Long ago

I gave up on humanity

Long ago

I waited for an answer.

“Have you cast me out?”

How long ago?

ON MEDUSA

Mother do you still love me?

My sweet child

How I cried

When the gods forsook you

I will always love you

COUSIN

The closest thing to a family reunion
That my family is willing to have
Happens to be a funeral

I'm marched around the funeral home
Donning my best Sunday dress
And trying to ignore the smell
Of the dead man at the front of the room
As I meet my obscure relatives

I'm brought before an old woman
Wrinkles like caverns lining her face
And my face reflects in her watery eyes
While I morbidly wonder if she's next
To occupy the dreaded box in front

Everyone I meet is introduced
As yet another cousin
The man in the coffin? Cousin
The old woman? Cousin
The children? Cousins
Their parents? Cousins

I learn that my family runs
To the ends of the universe
I can look up at a sky filled with stars
And call them my cousins

TO [REDACTED], WHAT I COULDN'T SAY

It's worse than you think. She did hit me. She's always hit me. I need help. I need to get out of this house, away from her, but I'm too scared. I'm too fucking scared. I'm in so much pain. Everything hurts all the time. Yes, I want your help. I've needed help for so long. I need to go to the hospital. If not for the severe depression, then for the anxiety, or the bulimia, or the self-harm, or even just to get me the fuck away from her.

Three days ago she was screaming at me again.

Three weeks ago she hit me in the throat.

Three months ago she was going through my stuff.

Three years ago she threatened me with a knife.

Yes, I need your help.

ODE TO EMPTY HALLS

Oh, you empty skeleton of buildings
Oh, you forgotten fossils and bare bones
Where the heartbeat of steps once flowed
Like a river unending and unstopping
What is your beauty?
The run-down look of your floors
A testimony to wandering souls
The graffiti on your walls
The finest art without a display case
The pin-drop silence
Loud and bold and suffocating
Oh, you wondrous mystery
Oh, you keeper of the unknown
What is your beauty?

BROKEN KNUCKLES SPLINTERED BONES

LAMENT OF THE FALLEN

A ball of rage
Sits in my stomach
I will not speak your name

A web of sadness
Stretches across my mind
I still don't quite know why

A longing ache
Weighs down my soul
Arthritis in my wings

A hollow call
Escapes my lips
The song is bittersweet

OUT OF THAT HELLISH NIGHT

I can feel the eyes on me
Watching, waiting patiently
For me slip up, to fall
Grinning teeth
Smiling fangs
The vultures circle
They're waiting for me
They can't wait for my corpse
For my blood to be spilled
To tear the flesh from my bone
I won't face my fate afraid
I look them in the eyes
Grinning teeth
Smiling fangs
Dripping blood
Mine or theirs?
We'll have to wait
For one of us to drop
Before either one finds out
We circle each other
Grinning teeth
Smiling fangs

Dripping blood

I refuse to die quietly

I refuse to let my rage go

I refuse to let you win

Not like this

Not ever like this

Grinning teeth

Smiling fangs

Dripping blood

I refuse to die quietly

I refuse to die at all

THEY SHOULD HAVE WARNED YOU ABOUT ME

One time I said my smile
Was just me baring my teeth
And was no different from
The snarling fangs of an animal

I stand by the warning
That you should not trust me
I stand by the warning
That you should not trust
That trust leads to pain

I still haven't learned
From my past mistakes
But neither have you

I stand by the idea
That the stars are just angels
And shooting stars
Are them coming to visit us
And that things don't always
Go as they're planned

I stand by the fact
That everyone we love
Will one day leave us
And that love can only
End in sadness

I stand by the idea
That there are angels
Who broke their halos
And joined us mortals

I stand by the idea
That some demons
Stayed here too

I am not an angel
I am no demon
And yet I warn you
Do not trust me

I stand by the idea
That forgiveness is optional
That we are allowed to be
Angry and bitter
And I've been hurt

Again and again

Again and again

And I get back up

And I rarely forgive

“JUSTICE FOR ALL”

I'm screaming
For every injustice
That we've faced

She tells me
To let it go
He tells me
To let it go
But I am neither
He nor she
And I will not let it go

I'm fighting
For every injustice
That we've faced
And I'm going for blood

APOLOGIES

Tired and I don't know why
Angry but my voice is already hoarse
From screaming while happy

I refuse to apologize
I won't explain my actions
I'm trying to protect you

Paint me a demon, I don't care
No one can tell me
What my scars are from

White noise, white walls
Black hands, black heart
My soul is permanently stained

I'm trying to do what's right
You didn't give me a choice
Then told me I chose wrong

EDITS

Fix me

Fix my face

Fix my looks

But my tongue is still untamed

Break me

String me up

Dancing puppet

But my tongue is still untamed

Correct me

Fix my mannerisms

Fix my behavior

Cut out my tongue

Watch the words spill out anyways

HOMOSAPIENS OF THE CONCRETE JUNGLE

12pt font, Times New Roman

Click clack click clack

The classroom always smells

Like lost hope and decay

Post-it notes and paperclips

Are all that hold us together anymore

The assembly line shuffles on

Somehow stand-still traffic never stops

Eyes stare downward, everyone is busy

Too busy to talk/think/breathe/live

Yet laughter screams through the hallway

I wonder if the walls themselves mock us

Teachers stalk up and down

An endless sea of desks

We swim through assignments

While they taste the water for blood

ERROR

Empty

Empty, not full

Never enough

Never empty

Hollow out my ribcage

Hollow out my bones

Hollow out my flesh

Delete me from existence

Brain like an overloaded memory card

Deleting my memories

One by one

By ones and zeros

Zeros are empty

I just want to be empty

Too much

Too full

My brain overloads

Ones and Zeros

Error: Delete

ON LEADING

“I’m staying here
Or I’m leaving”
My smile doesn’t falter
When he points to the door
Expecting me to back down
But I am stubborn today
And I spin around
And leave

“He said he likes
Your confidence but not
Your decision making”
I laugh when she asks
If we’re going back in
And keep doing my work

“You’re supposed
To be a leader”
That’s bullshit
I’m not a leader
Not a good example
I am what you tell kids

Not to grow up to be

My rebel soul

Thrives in chaos

While feigning order

I'm always tired

I'm always angry

I'm bitter and mean

And I don't like people

Do not expect me

To be a leader

Or I will lead you

Straight to ruin

THE DAY SCHOOL WAS MORE IMPORTANT THAN OUR LIVES

The year there was a school shooting threat
And the morning that it was to happen
The police announced that they'd apprehended
A suspect
Nothing was confirmed
I was sent off to school anyways

Stare into the cavernous mouth
Of the high school entrance doors
As they swallow soul after hollow soul
And wondering why your own feet
Continue to shuffle forward

By second period rumors have spread
That the shooter wasn't working alone
So I called my mother for answers
But *a* suspect was apprehended
So it must have been safe now
I texted my friend to be careful anyways

Staff remind you that they are willing

To lay down their lives to protect you
And then send you into the hallways
Herded like cattle for slaughter
Who is the wolf in sheep's clothing?

By the end of the day we are calmer
We haven't learned anything in classes
But at least we are no longer crying
Not because *a* suspect is confirmed
But because we all made it
Because we are still alive
And that's all that matters

Do you feel safe?

I FIGHT

The last time
A drop of my blood
Parted with me
I could almost feel
My body fighting
Just to keep me alive
After just losing
Just a single drop

Just a single drop
But still my body
Fights just the same
And I know now
The only difference
Between a drop
And a gallon
Is how hard
I must fight

And I know now
The only difference
Between living

And dying

Is how hard

I fight

And so the battle rages on

And I fight

FIRE

The rebel's scream
The Bloody knuckles
Splattered paint
And raw emotion

The pulsing blood
The love and lust
Matchstick strike
Every flame
Every blaze

The adrenaline rush
The freedom in breathing
That fire in your lungs

I have no wings
Try to convince me
That I am not a dragon
I will turn you to ash
As I agree with you

Don't come too close

You'll burn with me

This is my fire

My passion

My paint

They ask

Does it scare me?

They don't understand

The beauty I see

They just hear the cry

Don't step too close

To the fire

RIPTIDE

I've always been partial to water sports
Chlorine was the scent of my childhood
And I learned how to swim
Before I touched the handlebars of a bike

My father has always been a runner
Not for sport, of course, but from us
He ran from his responsibilities
Ran from his family
Ran from his children
Ran from me

I live only in two extremes:
Drought or drowning
My mother taught me to swim
My father left me to die

I would say that he can burn
As penance for his sins
But in all honesty,
I would rather he drown

HERE BEFORE

Shadows dancing on the wall
Flicker of a new flame
Shadows dancing on the wall
World will never be the same
Raging fire, burning all
World will never be the same
Mass destruction, hollow call
Bloody knuckles, rebels tame
Mass destruction, hollow call
The story is still the same
First comes madness, then the fall
The story is still the same
Break the pattern, burn the lie
We've been here before
Break the pattern, burn the lie
We've been here before

LOOKING BACK

I'm trying to believe, but
When they said you were real
I could see through the lie into your hollow soul

I've only ever known
What it feels like
To love with everything I have

The feeling of fighting
To protect who you love
Is more strengthening than love itself

A hopeless battle
Rallies dreamers under a lie
But when I call on the truth they hide

I'm trying to believe, but
I've only ever known
The feeling of fighting
A hopeless battle

ON MY FAITH

Yaweh, Jehovah
They call his name
Without truly knowing it
They condemn me
Condemn mine

“In the beginning”
But there is no beginning
“Amen.”
But there is no end

Miracle miracle
Burn the witch
Tell me our differences
And in the flames
I'll pray for you

REBEL SOUL

We glorify the rebel soul
And ridicule the rebel act

How dare you write about
My bloody hands and then
Scoff at how they got that way

Call me a failure
And I'll show you
What terrorizes kids
Hiding in dark corners

There is a time for fighting
But I don't remember when
This battle even began

"You should choose your battles"
But I never even had a choice

THE LAST DAYS

If I set the world on fire
Would you laugh or cry?
And if I couldn't sleep tonight
Would you sing a lullaby?

//

The windows are all broken
The stars have all gone out
Heaven shut its gates
Hell's run out of room
The angels burned their halos
And even the devil is scared

//

No rest for the wicked
None for the good either
I suppose those in between
Just have to wait and see

//

But the pyros are still thriving
Matchstick kids run the streets
And ragtag families drink gasoline

//

The militia strung up their boots

And that man hanging from the tree
They make the laws around here
They said he was corrupt
And had horns on his head
I think he called it a crown
But his silver tongue muddled the words

//

The sunset is still bloody and red
As the horizon swallows it whole
I wonder if it was once a planet
I wonder if it looked like ours
I wonder who lit that match

HOPEFUL SOULS HALLOWED BODIES

LESSONS

As the youngest sibling,
I was always given the broken controller
When playing video games with my brothers
And it taught me a few life lessons

1. When the world tries it hardest
To push you in every wrong direction
Push back with equal force
Or you might find yourself at a cliff's edge

2. When you stop moving forward
It's usually a clear sign
That something in your life
Needs to be shaken up

3. Don't let your siblings give you
A controller that doesn't work
And when they do anyways
Definitely don't let them win the game

HOME

Home is where the heart is
Home is laughter around a table
Smiles so wide that they hurt
Laughs so hard that they ache

Home is listening intently
As my brothers tell stories
Of their own lives' adventures
And hearing my mother sigh
As she sets food on the table
And gives in to laughter with us

Home is "let me show you this picture"
And "how is your cat doing?"
It's "can you make this for my party?"
And "stop touching my hair"
It's everything being different
And nothing having changed at all

SURVIVORS

My love and I

The dogs stepping about our feet

The cat watching from afar

Songs play from our past

Pain and sentiment intertwined

As we eat without worry

I bounce in my seat

She calls me goofy

And I sneak the pups some dinner

When she offers to wash the dishes

My body does not remember the panic

I do not feel the guilt

Or maybe I do

But I am safe now

I am not in trouble

We spend the rest of the night reminiscing

We text old friends and watch familiar shows

Our scars pull but we laugh despite them

We are not the products of our past

Merely the survivors of them

YOU

I remember now

Why I fell so hard

Why it hurt so much

Why I risked it all

It was you

It was all you

SWEET

Oh, sweet honey
Drips from your words
Eyes like the sea
Voice like the echo
Of a long past ancient god
Sweetheart, do you bleed gold?
I suppose that's what
You want to know too

My hands in yours
You ask me how I stay
But I can't tell
If I'm addicted
Or just praying

Oh, sweet honey
Pours from my fingertips
Bleeds gold into pages
Drips from my papers
Drips from my lips
Drips from yours

IRONY

What's funny
Is that I've never
Loved someone
As much as I do you
I've never wanted
Someone to stay
As much as I do you
And yet
I've never wanted
To push someone away
As much as I do you

Oh, sweet irony
To love someone enough
To crave their hatred

And to want them to stay
All the while

MIDNIGHT

It is midnight
When I know
What I'd known for a while
But it was midnight
When the realization
Hits me in the chest
And reverberates in my heart
Like the sound of fireworks
It does not know
What a resting heart rate is

It is midnight
When I know
I would follow you
To the depths of hell
If it meant I could stay
By your side for forever

It is midnight
When I know
That my worst fear
Is not death

Is not torture
Is not losing myself
That it is losing you
Because that pain
Would be unbearable

It is midnight
When I know
That you care too
Maybe not the same way,
But at least you care

It is midnight
When I know
I love you

Midnight has passed
And I know
You love me too

SPARE HER I

I don't care

What I must go through

If only it would spare her

From feeling this pain

I would take a thousand arrows

I would walk through fire

And freeze to death

If it would save her

War is nothing

I'd spill oceans of crimson

I'd bleed out the sun

If it spared her

SPARE HER II – SPARE YOU

Panic attacks

Compressed lungs

Oceans of tears

To keep you here

Siphon the air

Fresh from my lungs

Flesh from my bones

Blood from my veins

To keep you here

I'd give you the world

I'd burn it for you

If it would spare you

If that's what it took

To keep you here

SPARE HER III – GOODBYE

I fight so hard
To keep you here
With no intention
Of keeping you

You deserve to live
You deserve to thrive
I will fight for you
But I cannot stay

I will not stay here
I cannot stay here
I can't do that
Not to you

SPARE HER IV – DON'T GO

You don't get to say goodbye
That's always been my line

Last time someone abandoned me
I swore I'd never beg for someone
To stay with me never ever again
But all I can think now is
*"God, if you are listening
Please don't take her from me."*

God, if you are listening
Please don't leave me

SPARE HER V – STAY

When I wake up
From a nightmare
Where I hurt you
I panic

My head tells me not to stay
My head tells me you won't want me
My head tells me I hurt you
You tell me otherwise
You tell me to stay
And I want to

My heart wants me to stay

And how could I say no to you?

SEMICOLON

My friend comes to school

With a semicolon tattooed on his arm

.....

I ask him why and he rolls his sleeve up further

To show me scars, faded, but familiar

.....

He tells me that a semicolon means

That the sentence was meant to end

But continued on anyway

.....

He rolls his sleeve back down

Without need for further explanation

.....

I know what he means;

I, too, stood at the cliff's edge;

I, too, lived another day

OPEN // CLOSED

Open

Open hands

Open hearts

Open with me

I am not good at open

Closed

Close my mouth

Close my eyes

Close myself off

I am *very* good at staying closed

Meet me halfway

Tell me half of your secrets

And I'll divulge half of my own

We can fill in the gaps

Just like we do with our hearts

Cracked and flawed

Scarred beyond recognition

Fearful beyond belief

I can hold your hopes/dreams/fears/regrets

As long as you hold mine too

AN OPEN LETTER TO MY SHADOW

A push and a pull

My light self and darkness

Tell me, lover,

Why do you look back at me

So disappointed

Dissatisfied

Distant

In this mirror?

We'll try again tomorrow

OK

I will be ok one day

I swear it

I swear it by the moon

I swear it by the air in my lungs

I swear it by the blood in my veins

I swear it by the blood in hers

We will be ok

I swear it

HER

She burned like the sun
And he was held hostage by her beauty
Looking at her in fleeing glances
Eyes burning each time he did
Never quite seeing all of her at once
Afraid he'd go blind if he did
Never quite able to look away long
Afraid he'd go blind if he did

She begged him to stay away
Warned him of the dangers of loving her
Warned him of the dangers of her love
And when he finally touched her,
Skin turned to coal-black ash
As the fire spread from his heart
To his skin and burned him whole

Their tears singed away in the heat
As he burned before her

HIM

His tears mixed with wax
Burning his skin
The burden on his back
Was finally lifted

It's funny how
When he was falling
He felt lighter
Than when he flew

They said she was his downfall
But when he got close enough
He asked her to free him
And she only complied

Fire kissed his skin
And freed him of the sky
She caught him in the waves
And cooled his blessed scars

She was his beloved savior

From the curse on his back

She was his saving grace

They just couldn't see how

NICKNAMES

They laughed

When they gave us

Our nicknames

“Cap and Bucky”

They didn’t realize

How right they were

Neither of us

Are stable

And yet

We keep each other going

“If you go, I go”

Doesn’t that sound like

“I’m with you

‘Til the end of the line”?

If I’m honest

I already fell for you

If I’m honest

I could go through hell
And you'd still be the one
Who brings me back

If I'm honest
Yours would be the last name
I ever spoke

COLD

Snowflakes falling
Stumbling over themselves
Just to get to you
Just for the sliver of a chance
That they could maybe
Land on your little nose
Or brush the tips of your hair

In the winter
You nearly glow with heat
As the snow dusts around you
I am the opposite
In the summer
I shiver in the sun
And chill the air around me
As I wish you were here
To warm my freezing hands

ODE TO YOUR ARMS

I don't really like hugs
Too many cautionary tales
Too many nightmares
Too many bad people out there
For me to trust like I used to

This poses a problem at family events
Where I spend most of my time
Staring into space
And pretending I'm stable
After I manage to escape
The grasp of everyone in the room

When I hugged you
I almost cried
Not out of discomfort,
As I feel like doing so often with others,
I was finally home

Don't let me fall
Don't let me fall
Don't let me fall

I'll shatter like glass

Please

Just don't let me go

“Stable”

Begins with the word “stab”

Maybe

It's why I'm afraid to trust you

My back is scarred enough

When I hugged you

I almost cried

I already fell

Don't let me go

A STEP FORWARD

Some days

I wonder what you're up to

Some days

You don't even cross my mind

Maybe I'm finally moving on

BEAUTY // BEAST

They called him cruel
Heartless and hateful
Never showing mercy

They called her dainty
Delicate and small
She could break easily

When they saw him
Standing next to her
They feared for her

When they saw her
Standing next to him
They hated him

In his eyes
She saw destruction
And she loved him anyway

In her eyes

He saw salvation

And his storm never touched her

She held his heart

With gentle hands

He held her heart

Like it was his last breath

ARTIST OF SORROWS

Colors and lines and *art*
Poured out from years of
Love and heartbreak
Building and ruin

You don't know what to do
But you know that nothing feels right
Unless your hands bring life
To the lines on your canvas

Fear outlines your outlines
Doubt and worry blend into the colors
I promise that it will never go away
Fear has a way of cheating death
But no matter what you do
Please, don't let it stop your hands
Don't let the ink dry
Don't let the colors fade
Do anything but betray yourself

You are a creator,
It is in your blood

THE FUTURE – I

Today I saw the future
Well, not so much as saw than felt
But as a blind person is able
To feel someone's face and know
What they look like, I too
Felt what the future held for me
And it was more than words
Can ever tell, hard as I may try

It felt like freedom
And wearing sunglasses
At the beach on a Saturday
It felt like sitting at the table
For dinner with friends
It felt like getting an apartment
With someone who you love
With someone who loves you back
It felt like smiles and laughter
And wondering how anything
Was ever any different
And knowing that it once was
And knowing how far you've come

I still can't fully see it

But it's just around the corner

I can feel it

THE FUTURE – II

The future is coming

It's beautiful

And glorious

And *right there*

And I can't wait to meet it

OPEN LETTER TO MY HEART

An open letter to you
You know who you are
Honey dripping from your words
I was sure you'd leave by now

I was so sure I was
Hopeless
Pointless
Loveless
Lifeless

But you stop me
Speechless

You light up my life

The kindest person
The loveliest person
The most beautiful
And amazing
And wonderful
And words still fail me

Tongue tied

Tripping over myself

Smiling

Blushing

Giggling

You smile

And my heart flutters

You laugh

And my lungs falter

You simply exist

And my words fail

I wonder how you could ever

~~Like someone like me~~

Like me

Actually like me

You *actually* like me

How?

What?

Why?

Huh?

~~Are you sure?~~

~~Like really~~ sure?

Me?

So many questions

But I just accept my miracle

Pretty lover

I wasn't supposed to get close to you

But rules be damned

I'm glad I did

Beautiful lover

I wasn't supposed to fall for you

But rules be damned

I'm glad I did

Gorgeous lover

I wasn't supposed to love you

But rules be damned

I'm glad I do

My lover

This is for you,

With all my heart

I love you



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