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The Shapeshifter's Wife

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The Shapeshifter's Wife

The third night he returns
unannounced, inked dark
against the blue backwash
of a dreamless moon.

I hardly know him
except that he is mine

with his amphibian eyes
and slow, hard hands

but it is his mouth
I fear most
sharp and strange
against the chewed silk
of my martyr's heart.

I hardly know him
except that he is my reflection.

His long body blooms
across the sheets,
spiny and starlike.
While he dreams
I trace his bones
beneath the slick silver
of shapeshifter's skin.

Where he's been
I cannot tell.

All I know is
some nights
the white moon wails
and he answers.

All I know is that I wait,
Unchanging.