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## The Temptress Time

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# The Temptress Time

Leah Brennsteiner

The Temptress Time kisses my lips softly.  
Warmth radiates from her body to mine,  
My cold body aches to be as near to her as allowed.  
Her arms caress me as I shiver, but it's not enough.  
I plead for more from her, more love and attention, more of anything.  
Time lifts my face, her silky hand brushing my cheek.  
Looking into her eyes, I feel as though my world stops rotating.  
Allowing me to breathe.

Inhale.

Exhale.

Inhale.

Nails suddenly dig into the sides of my face, pulling desperately until they  
rip it in half.

Screams spew out of me, along with my blood.

Time is cackling, waving my skin around like a

golden ticket.

My bones ache from the exposure of the piercing chill.

I touch my wounds and run away

from the temptress.

I am not so juvenile to believe I can truly leave her.

She used to encourage my willful ignorance,

Allowing me to run ahead as she trailed three blocks behind.

Today she catches up to me.

I trip and Time jumps onto me, glaring down at me with cold eyes,

Blood dripping from her mouth into mine.

*Drip.*

I will never escape time. She will always find me, I will always long for her.

*Drip.*

If I keep running to or from her, she will persist.

*Drip.*

But when I accept her presence, she will fade.