

# Crippling Wonderland

By Sabrina Hsu

## Dreamer

golden water, rocked the boat as -  
his words, rocked my world.  
Alice - a utopia created by each breath drawn

unredeemable<sup>1</sup> time, ticking<sup>1</sup>  
a child of my dreams  
breaking them ore she grows

eager to tumble into his dreams  
I, the birth of his evil  
prosaic smile; fumbling love

misty breath, dream conjured  
Silhouette imprinted in the fog:  
cool, and rather wet

I captured his heart with my youth.  
locked deep down the rabbit hole  
golden key, forever lost.

"Don't grow up"  
let the dreamer be entrapped

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<sup>1</sup> Alternating between Lewis and Alice's voices, with Lewis' font slightly bigger to highlight their unique relationship

## Devoured

every tear drop  
swallowed by the  
bottomless sky,  
dumped in a puddle of food.

*too round*

can the depths of sorrow  
be bled dry?  
"will that make me more  
p e t i t e?"

*too big*

finger clicking like a gun  
gouging out the food  
to be small again:  
cupcake no longer devoured

*too tall*

sadness crystallizes into tears  
melting into the growing sea  
let it flow with  
the echoes of the past.

## Atlantis

colors in the darkenss  
disintegrated into dust  
float away to another planet

never forget the past that believes -  
he can create the universe -  
and hold the galaxy in his palms.

swirl to another planet with  
the breath of the wind and -  
fall in love with the petals of a rose.

yet she's outgrown the innocence  
of dreams and fantasies.  
wipe the tears from the atlantis  
She once told her mom she wanted to explore...

## Transparency

i opened my delicate wings  
embracing your guarded mask -  
but where is the heart - the face  
beneath that crooked smile.  
outgrown by tigers;  
outchased by cheetahs:  
so i chose only the colorless silhouette,  
to complete the painting with a happy background.

I relent to the crashing of color.  
One day my silence will scream through the chaos.

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unstrangle me from the crumbling darkness  
awaken when wonderland comes  
and when reality ends

## Succumb

She liked the lines that danced  
Around his eyes  
Like fish tails against water  
Wrinkles in time

Flowers bloom, knowing when to fall  
Adrift, swirling -  
The end of the earth  
A sea of petals?

Happiness is his smile  
The pauses before his answers  
And the slow convergence  
As heartbeats become one

Flowers bloom, as if not ephemeral  
Vibrant and ablaze  
Yet who is to say  
They ever were alive at all?