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Quickening Pulse

Isis Zystrid

you approach
your daily life
as though you never
need to float from the earth--
you are tactful
and careful with what you influence.
this is a quality
that summons
parts of me that feel
they could love,
love how harmonious
you are
with your own life.
and i am one
who is always craving
excitement,
always on to the next thing--
my mouth is often dry
from what i am aware
i have not seen yet.

and intimacy
can follow this model--

it can be all rigor
and momentary thrills.
but those hormonal shifts
and emotions
reach their peak--
the reflexes that can embrace you
often have expiration dates
and the nights are filled
with more empty words
than ones with sincerity
and anchors.
nights of passion
followed by no text back,
you wake up not lonely
but with a sign above you
that states:
"you don't have to go home,
but you can't stay here."

in college,
you mentioned why
we should never be together--
you are nearly asexual
and staunchly monogamous
and i am
just not.

but before i enter
another bar
full of basic human instincts
inside people who don't care
to ever give a damn about me--
would you want to go stay
in a cabin
by the peninsula
for the weekend?
would you want to
come home
to me
reading the paper
and fighting off cynicism?
does doing the simple things
while pretending to be elderly
appeal to you?
because i may need a little more
roots grown thick
while firmly planted
in the ground
as opposed
to

a

quicken

pulse.

Bio:

Isis Zystrid is a poet who enjoys long walks in the depths of Hades and rainy evenings. She has been published in several literary magazines and anthologies and resides in Seattle, Washington.