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Moonrise Over St. Paul's

Debbie Knubley

We have different moontimes, you and I. Here, St. Paul's shadow descends over white cathedral steps, shielding a quiet couple from the darkling sky. Sitting close, they whisper secrets that echo "you" from the late-night lovers in alleyways, who cannot bear to close their eyes and say goodnight. Their laugh—liquid and low trickles down the stairs and gathers in a puddle at my feet. They smile their love-sick smile with dilated pupils. Some say love is blind.

Through half open eyes, I see all twelve hours around the world to where you are. I hunt the setting sun down its nightly path around the meridian to meet you at sunrise, my eyes heavy with sleep. One hundred and fifty-one days stretch out before me, braceleted and white and bare, before I can see you again and be blind once more. Until then I count the length of time and miles that wraps each thought of you in if only... Moonlight drips off my eyelashes.