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## Betrayal

Mardelle Fortier  
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# Betrayal

Mardelle Fortier

Down into the  
Deepest velvet-seeming dark

No one can betray you so well.

Into the silence, complete and pure...  
Into the shiny stone inside the mild smile...  
Shadows lace themselves like fingers  
Inside your screaming ears.  
No one does it so cleverly.  
Caves, apparently high and solid, of ice:  
Touch them—you plunge through to

Darkness sleek as the lids  
That cover blind eyes.  
You stand burning at the stake  
In fire soft as gasoline.  
No one  
Can betray you  
Like a sister can.