The Jaws of Mona Lisa

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Late night at the Louvre:
a young museum guard
hears a woman's voice
calling him, compelling him.
In a trance, can't resist,
he finds himself before
the Mona Lisa who mutters
something he can't hear
through the thick glass
enclosing her.
Against all rules,
he breaks the glass
to listen to what
she is saying through
smiling lips.

She says softly: Come close,
hear my plea, I long to
laugh, I want to sing,
I need to yawn, I am so
bored, my lips are dry,
I'm hungry too, I wish
to bite and to chew,
I want to kiss
you...come closer...
Leonardo was wrong,
he thought he closed
my mouth,
paint it shut forever,
but he couldn't.

HE HATED WOMEN!
Mona Lisa shrieks
into the guard's ear
pressed to her smile
that is opening wide
as a canyon or a chasm,
an open terrible grin
pulling him in.
his last thought before
his head is gone,
and then the rest of him,
is I know why
the Mona Lisa smiles
I know why
she smiles I KNOW!

Every thirty years
at the Louvre,
an innocent man
simply disappears.