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## The Shadowy Woman

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## THE SHADOWY WOMAN

You sit. Prim, proper.  
A wealth of wisdom gained.  
The owl now jealous.

You see. Eyes follow.  
Searching and probing the soul.  
The eagle amazed.

You wait. Immortal.  
Throngs will stop, stare, acknowledge.  
The lion envies.

You care. But for what?  
You stay with no reaction.  
The cat is present.

You hide. Within truth.  
The past. The future. The now.  
The rabbit aloof.

You smile. Life's question.  
For love? For grief? Forever.  
The jackal confused.

You watch. No reply.  
Single word will break the spell.  
Leonardo's gift.

— *Thomas Zarndt*