

The Beast Within

By Ava Eucker

White flaming tendrils
Slipping between ice
Cracking surreal beauty.
Heat: crawling
Amongst vast plains
Uprooting greenery.
Its scaly claws
Protrude from shiny tubes
Though nothing else is shiny,
One cannot see through the black,
Its veil constricting breath.

The beast has no mercy,
It transcends all blockades,
Contaminating the tightest seals.
It seems its tyrannical ways
Instill fear, yet fear
Hasn't the power for change.
Wheels turn again,
And the black continues to seep
From shiny tubes.

No sword, nor pistol
Can kill this beast.
For a sword is no match
For a sword.
The wheels and tubes
Keep spinning, and white hot
Tendrils annihilate the green and blue.
It leers, it lurks,
Yet the people see it plainly.

The blue turned grey,
Green soiled brown,
Until eyes beheld the earths decay.
Kind hearts and hands
Sparked light inside wheels,
Used birch time and again
So the shiny tubes
Were rarely churning, and exhaust
Ceased caking roads with
Grime.

The breath of jubilant yellow
Streamed down from above,
Where brilliant minds interlaced
Billions of squiggly lines
From golden rays.
Running down thin cords,
Empowering a clean life.
No longer do bright skies
Appear drear and somber

The grey and brown beast began
To recede, as the shiny tubes
And rumbling wheels took leave.
Those who cherished
Green and blue
Obstructed garbage,
Replanted trees, all while
Thin wheels and wide hearts
Rode past sprouting life.

The ice was sewn back together
Cold dwelling creatures
No longer outcast
Among malicious waves.
And the endless blue waters
Ceased swelling.
The skies eyes now
Shed joyous tears among
Fields and forests, spreading
Harmony and new harvest.

Though once a mere myth,
The beast has proved true.
Red behind glass has been
climbing, nearing the precipice
of life as we knew.

Wishes and hopes were no match
For a beast, with wiry tendrils
And scaly claws. It took
A C T I O N
To repair the wounds
Left by the beast from within.

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