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I Swallowed the Sky

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I Swallowed the Sky

Alex Abbey

I swallowed the sky,
And the taste was weightless.
On my tongue, the cloud shifted
Flat, like papier-mâché
Filling the lungs
With lullaby chime
Cells stranded together like pearls
Rolling off the vanity.

Mahogany smoke, drifted through
The room and settled at the shrine.
To the sea he spoke in German
And to the sea I spoke in mine.
The letter, hand delivered in fragrance
Passing by strangers in the night
Words coming up like shooting stars
My words his wings, but failed flight.

In the beginning, Atlas sketched
our names into Orion's Belt
Looping holes, another notch
Whispering, "Liebst du mich noch?"
I already knew your answer,
And surely, you my final thoughts.
With a belly full of sky,
I forgave all you forgot.

I swallowed the sky,
And the taste was limitless.
On velvet foreheads,
Glints of gold fell between curls.
To eat my words, I washed them down with ink
Down came the shore, and on it our final brink.
I swallowed the sky, and I got the mouthful
And learned that even stars leave scabs, so be careful what you wish for.