

The Ugly Girl's Guide To The Galaxy

POEMS BY VALERIE HARDIN

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Some poems of these have been published in Eclipse, Blue Lady, Europium and others.



The Story of Angels

I am not the victim in the novels you write,

I am not the buxom beauty

You will not find me swooning over your cardboard vampires

For I am not weak

I am Jane Eyre, but with fangs

BLANK

A photograph of nothing
Is actually a map
Of the silent grave
And it perfectly describes
Of how I feel

Wolves

Warped in the loop of human carnality

We destroy ourselves and leave our own hearts

For wolves to devour



Skull Box

My brain holds secrets
It holds my dark lies, desires.
Everyone has their own.
And only in death is it every really open
Drained into emptiness.

Nightmares In The Air

Nightmares are not in the air we breath
But like air they circulate
through our bodies
Nightmares are in the air we breath,
But like plants create air we create nightmares

Strange Dragons

Ordinary dragons do not breath fire
They do not keep princesses by their side
Ordinary dragons are locked in gold cages
Weeping for their freedom

Gray Angel

Mother-angel eyes like gray seas
Mother-angel tears flowing free
Mother-beast who yells at me
Mother-hero like the sheltering tree
Mother in the dark with a shaking knee
Mother-frightened a bit like me

Broken

Angels descend
Paper wings broken
They do not become mortals But the demons they despised



The Handmaiden's Song
My husband taken from me
I am the handmaiden to another woman
To give birth to children
That she claims as her own
I am pregnant once again
Once again she takes my child
Like a ghost claiming empty spaces of the mind
And I see other mothers discarding their
Children like remnants of rotted meat
Trying to retrieve them later
But once you cast away a soul
You cannot get it back at least in one piece
To become the mirror image
Of the woman who steals children from my womb

Frog Queen

She hides her warts with paper masks

That look like my own skin

Only with the false grace I could never steal

Nor would want to



Marzipan Angel
Child gorges herself
On marzipan angel's soft sweet halo
Nibbles on the lord's staff
Tastes the salt on a prayer
Sucks on the creamy center the Bible
Remember when that was you, remember
When you thought of love at its purist
Candy and God
Everything ruined by adults who have forgotten
And spit in the candy.

This Family Crypt
Kindred in bed together for eternity
When they couldn't stand
To be together in life
Servant to the bones Kindred in bed
Eyes closed eyes closed
When they couldn't stand to look at one another
Their family name forgotten

Dinner at the Pulp House

Boring words written by some so called great mind
On white paper it is published but no one reads
The stale words stifle me like liqueur
His bad novel is mushed with water
And formed into new paper
Words of life and death are written
I devour it like a steak given to the starving
Like a vampire who has just tasted blood for that first time.

War Songs

Death is a warrior
That no matter the battle gradually wins
Death is a song that everyone knows
But wishes they did not

THE SUFFERERS

We all know how to suffer we do it so well
We lock ourselves in our hearts
Like it's some kind of shell
We forget that hearts bruise easily
The blood flows like they do from wounds
We all know how to suffer
We use our hearts like wombs
We dig the thorns in ourselves
We try to scream from the shell called the heart
We weep inside
But somehow we cannot make our lips part

Like Fallen Angels

We could touch others with our works

But we find much more fun destroying them

Until by accident it is our wings crushed between our own fists

Loop
Worlds Spin, stars collide
Implosions, new worlds being born
No one thinks of this while watching bad TV Shows
Boredom
And no one watches it as they move closer to screen

Pretending
She will not hit you with her heavy fist
If you straighten her sheets
And pretend that she is dying
For eventually she will

Daughters of the Moon
Moonbeams emerge from the crevices of Diana's
Round pregnant body of virgin stone

LOVE HAS NO MEANING

Love has no meaning beyond itself.

Love has a way of hurting badly.

I hurt so very badly.

Maybe it is because I'm old though my face is still young.

Maybe it is because in some sick way I still think I need you.

In fact I know I do.

Birth

Science has forgotten what mothers have always known

That no machine can replace their touch.

Beasts of Burden

His face twisted with the pain of solitude.
They point and laugh
Throw stones until he screams
Or flies away.
His feathered wings lift him
Passed their perfect faces.
His feathered wings lift him
Passed the cream colored clouds.
He does not look down at the fields of gold
Or taste the sweet strawberries that grow wild
He just listens for the one heart beat
That will beat against his own.

The Fading

She is fading in her bed.
Her face is round like the full moon.
Her crimson lips tremble.
Candles are burning
For the dead in her eyes.
Her tears fall across her beige pillow.
She speaks to angels now
I wonder why I do not see them.
I wonder why I cannot save her.

Castles

Ghosts are nothing but shadows of memories
Castles are nothing but boxes to hold dreams in

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