~ • ~

"What does it feel like?"

"It's magnificent, having so many people listening to me, for once."

"Perhaps I should follow their example too? My Lord."

"No. Only you are not allowed to call me that."

"Yes, Reyn."

"I will never stand above you, my friend."

~ • ~

THE FIRST ACT: THE CURTAINS RISE

He was fallen to darkness – the man who served it once Crimson was the sanguine that seeped from his heart As was every ruby pearl that dripped into despair Bringing sanity along

Cries he once begged to end are ringing in his breast
Spreading cruel pleasure that soared in his veins
They sear his eyes a delightful scarlet desire
Burning Zir image away

~

Twilight will descend upon this godforsaken land And with the briefest warnings darkness will march through the prologue of its reign

~

Zir touches are flitting on its heavy gold
Forgotten memories trickle back painfully slow
Glowing affection now no more than tragic illusion
Clinging like water

Hope lost after hope found is the succour to zir heart
Yet the crippling of the shadow steals inside of zir
It seeds quiet fury and tears zir apart
Erasing away Dis times

THE SECOND ACT: THE CURTAINS HOLD

What he once knew wrong he succumbs and lets them willingly excite him Brandishing drunken power from a hollowed soul he'd carved for himself Anticipation and domination clouds his long ago clear eyes

Dissolving remnant promises

His blood is thick and black and pulsing power he doesn't want to lose

With eyes alight with something defying death

Cruelly smiling and carelessly killing his past – he doesn't want to go back

Forging ahead a path of blood

~

The one who has chosen to abandon his past will be consumed

Hope of breaking free the shackles of servitude masked in glory now rests solely and heavily on **₹ie**

~

Zie cradles zir fractured heart tenderly
Silently zie reminisces the time when zir and De were still them
A broken time that slowly fades and disappears
Losing Dis smile forever

Fire pierces zir most protected innermost being Ripping zir heart and spilling zir anguished tears

Yet zie finds no room for hatred to take root

Zie still loves – zie can't hurt 19im

THE LAST ACT: THE FINAL CURTAIN

He knows what \mathbb{Z} ie wants with him

Posture of humility submissively arched in due respect \mathbb{Z} ie knelt like many others did as they disgustingly cast their pride

Yet \mathbb{Z} ie looked beautiful as ever

He summoned the initiation: "Kill the child" $\not\equiv$ it trembled – resisting $\not\equiv$ it humanity for he who lost his Swiftly and mercifully $\not\equiv$ it cut through the child's heart Proof barely – but proof enough

~

So fall away from the saving grace resplendent in creation And the two broken souls dance their way out of destiny's cold and unformed hands

~

All zie wants is to claw zir way back in

Once and for all tearing Jim from the clutches of no return

Then zie wants to seize Jim in zir arms and

Never let Jim go

Zie will try by submitting to In and making zir In Zie will endure discarding zir humanity for In Zie will bring In fascination with power to end Zie will bring zir friend back – zie will do anything

Redeem he who lost himself in power

CURTAIN CALL: ENCORE

"My Lord."

This is what he has forgotten:
... don't call me that...
Only you are not allowed...