

I'll never forget the sight of your body in his arms
So still
So peaceful
So utterly perfect
Yet so quiet
You've never been that quiet before

I never thought I'd see this day
The prophecy said otherwise
But the gods don't care
They never have

My hands shake as I approach
It's not real
It can't be real
You'll wake and it'll all be fine
Even for only a moment
That will be enough
Just to see your eyes
Your smile
You in all your radiant glory

Nothing

I collapse to my knees at your side
I take your hand in mine
Watching
Waiting for something
That I can only hope will come

Until I realize it never will

I finally allow myself to feel
And it's not so quiet anymore

I hate that I sent you out
Against all intuition
Why did I oblige you?
You died in my armor
Alone
Marred by blood
And I can't help but feel
Like I pushed the spear in myself

I will kill him
I will down the great Hector
No one can stop me
Not the Trojan army
Not the gods
Not even the prophecy
For none foretold this

If only I had seen you before the end
Maybe then I'd be satisfied
In telling you everything I can no longer say
How I wished for those quiet moments on the beach again
How I missed the loveliness of those nights away from the others
How I wanted to hold you once more

How I *loved* you

I loved you
More than the idea
More than the sensation it gave me
To look in your eyes and know you
I loved you for you
For the quiet nights
For the days of sparring
For everything we could give

And now we can give no more
I promised fair sky above
And kind road below
But gave neither

I hold you close as the tears fall
The battlefield is loud again
But not from the fighting
The crowd dissipates behind me
But not from respect
From pity
Silenced by my despair
Burdened by my cries for blood
For vengeance

They called you many names
Some good
Some bad

But none worth remembering
For I only knew you by one:
Beloved

The screams don't stop until they burn you

And I wait to join you in the ash