## Ultimatum

Mr. Ebony,

You sleep with your back towards mine. I know not what you think of at night, nor do I wake you to question your dreams. Instead I see the tan lines of an absent ring stashed in a briefcase or deep pocket, out of view. I know the significance of gold; marking faith, fidelity, honesty. Know too the empty space my own hand shows.

She lays alone, cold as I do in realization.

Damming tears they soak her bleached pillows. She rips pictures of white days from the newly plastered egg walls. Glass litters the plush carpets, carpets so different than this motels brown. She dreamed of a future with you at her side. A white blotted by sins made in red. Now she curses me. Does she have visions of red, the two of us...red?

She dreamt of a future with you at her side. I think of this condemned path and wonder, how was I to resist? Now, in sleep, you pull the covers from me. You sigh in contentment. I wear no ring but I am your other half.

So, I give one final offer, dream in white or red? For either will be the last you see.

Miss Crimson