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The Creature

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THE CREATURE*Jeremy Richards*

Something clawing at my insides
Through my empty veins it rides
I am not alone, I cannot sleep
Deep within my black heart it creeps
Numbing all of me that feels
Reducing my skin to an empty peel
This monster haunts my vision
Yet cannot be removed by incision
So still it crawls, black as night
Feasting in the hollows, void of light
In my memory it takes its reign
Thriving on every picture-perfect stain
The demon soars on the wings of hell
Thoughts drown in its deceitful swell
I fear it will never die
I feel its ever vigilant, midnight eye
Watching every action taken
Leaving not a nerve unshaken
Will it be with me all my life?
A self-inflicting constant strife?
This is the burden I must bear
A weight I will not ever share
Who will win the battle, the beast or me?
Will I triumph and be set free?
Or within me will it always hide?
My ever-present thorn-in-side.