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Everything Will Be Given Back

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Everything Will Be Given Back

_Darian Rose Dolan_

You find her submerged in holy water,
roaming empty cathedrals,
silent in the confessional,
speaking in tongues,
a hymn kissed into the skin:
hallowed
and
anything but.

she is the warm glow of glass-stained windows
the sacramental wine on your lips
you’ll find God in her breathing and
before anything else they will teach you how to love
the right way and
the first thing you will learn is that
you love
the wrong way and

she will become that heavy ache
from all the stones they cast so you
pour holy water down your throat and
baptize yourself in the bathroom sink
you wash her deep enough to drown and
then the exorcism comes like a drought
and
for so long you are a
desert.
here are the ways in which she comes back to you:
you will learn how to speak her name and suddenly the sky splits open and she is the genesis flood she is divine retribution she is torrential rain she is a monsoon and she is Pouring out of you, and you are ready to love her the right way.