

until my knuckles turn white,
and fear. Hold on tight
to what remains-- out of love

more were no more. Now I cling
we thought until you and so many
then grasped each other, inseparable
as we loosened our grip on the lap bar,
shot us down. Took our breath away
shook. Then gravity and machinery
drop, our stomachs groaned, our hearts
the apex and viwed the wrenching
blue skies. Hands linked, we anticipated
the terrifying thrill. But as we reached
the steep hill. Our eyes questioed
the roller coaster car inches up
Holding On

2.



3. A Steep Climb

Was kin to cloud and sky.
Sang jubilantly atop the summit.
Sped over the trail's snags.
Leapt from rock to rock.
Once scrambled to the top.

Iumble, to the mule boulders.
"Perhaps another day,"
bends my back and desire.
With yesterday's troubles,
My backpack, crammed
small opening in a tall thicket.
hesitate at the trailhead, a dark,
rocks that steal steadiness.
rocks rip the skin and shifting
armed with thorny bushes
a mountain, the path, overgrown,
But in time the hill became
Thoughtless and open, feel the sun's
warmth, hear the wind's wordless song.
Touch the breathing soil beneath you,
Picture yesterday's grief, tomorrow's
anxiety as a tangle of knots untied.
What recedes; what comes forth
from the shadows?
•

Come, sit under the jig tree.
Thoughtless and open, feel the sun's
warmth, hear the wind's wordless song.
Touch the breathing soil beneath you,
Picture yesterday's grief, tomorrow's
anxiety as a tangle of knots untied.
What recedes; what comes forth
from the shadows?
•

1. Petals and Shadows

I didn't see the shadows
until I zoomed in tightly,
brought the lens and eyes down
to the strands of darkness
staining each and every white
petal. One could not be without
the other. Sisters holding hands,
the pure one more prominent,
the earthly one so shy. Hidden
but ready to be discovered.

Let the violin's high note announce
the dance and the cello's mellow
tones carry the tune. Watch the sisters
twirl like black and white dervishes,
twirl until the sky darkens, until
they stagger and fall to the ground
petals beyond their time.

Three Strikes



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