

hourglass

foxed-up hourglass
femininity blast
force-of-nature knockout who
made the lights go out.

she pounds me like a hammer pounds a nail
striking her love spike
through every knot and gnarl
in my petrified heart.

she reignites my desire for union
reawakening all the pain
that always goes with it.

she cracks my chest open
with her kind eyes
then digs in deep
and makes her mark.

she comes and goes in
storms of beauty
then leaves me sliding
along my own raw edges.

wanting someone is never pretty
desire is a ten-car pileup on the way to church
love is an abandoned zoo full of starving animals
lust is a horse running wild
through a crowd of frightened children.

she heals me
she wounds me
she makes me
she breaks me.

she takes me out
into farthest waters long forgotten
then returns to her world
with a kiss and a smile
leaving me adrift on an ocean
of unfamiliar stillness
floating among the sparkling reflections
of my own sunset.