

You

**Candace Mckenzie**

damn you  
you snuck up on me  
you sneaky, sly thing  
so unexpectedly  
you slinked  
and slithered  
into that one vacancy  
at my heart's door  
that I thought I had  
requested  
to lock up  
so another tenant  
couldn't occupy that space  
for a sweet moment or two

because the last tenant  
moved and settled into that space  
with 100 lb of packed baggage  
some broken promises  
shady, shifty lies  
that swerved and curved  
a never-ending sea of  
confusion  
that tornadoed my sanity  
at its threads  
and ripped my heart away  
by its threadbare roots  
making such a mess of the space  
that someone other than me  
had to clean up  
to make it presentable for the next person

-and now you're here  
damn  
snuggled up in my heart  
pillow  
blanket  
covers  
and all  
Will you ever check out and take your memories with you?  
and  
quit paying rent to my emotions  
while you choose to default

on talking to me

you make me miss and love  
the being  
you were  
the beauty of  
our delicious  
shot-gun romance  
damn if we could taste it one more time  
instead of wondering what the taste  
would be like with someone else  
I only wonder  
you only wonder

-Now the fallen buds  
of our friendship  
sadden me  
as their fresh, green tips  
wither slowly to  
brown  
with each passing moment  
we remain silent  
with warm phones  
in our hands  
waiting on the other  
to say something first

making me wonder if  
we'll ever bloom again  
all because of  
you You