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## Love Poem

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Love Poem  
by Christina Hedding

I.

Before me lies a sea  
of amethyst sheets  
and cardboard dinners  
briny with the past.

I want to

taste your ocean  
on my lips as I kiss  
away the tide  
of black and blue.

In the beginning

ecstasy is limitless like  
the navy waves that  
crash against my chest.

My heart stirs: alive.

II.

I gave you my heart,  
a shiny new penny.

I watched you

eat, savor, and spit  
it out. On the floor  
it looked like

amber-gris scraped  
from the gullet

of a decaying whale,  
a yellow bubbling mush.

I scoop it with fragile hands  
and heave it back into  
my chest. It promises  
to work better next time.