



BEHIND
THE
GHOST
METROPOLIS

ANNETTE DABROWSKA

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Poetry book

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1. The light

I'm lying here on the floor
shapeless body
no energy, no smile, no life inside
I cover my face with my hands
I don't want anyone to see
my weakness
my pain
my shame

Broken soul
shattered heart
dark thoughts drill through my mind
loneliness circles around me
I can hear the cruel laughter of my self-hatred

Suddenly the ray of light gets through
the haze of gloom
it's so small almost invisible
but it's there I know
I crawl to get closer to it
quietly so I don't scare it away
it's bright and colorful
it warms up my cold bones

I look right through the light
it fills me with courage and strength
to fight against my demons
I'm not alone anymore

I slowly stand up

2. Breaking the cycle

My eyes darken when I see my new lover. Fresh prey.
My body doesn't react in a sexual way.
It's the devil inside me that celebrates the next conquest.
We exchange meaningless sweet words.
His hungry gaze penetrates my breasts and ass.
Another drink and laughter.
And then another.
Sometimes I get very drunk or high.
I don't feel him between my legs.
I don't see his sweating face.
I don't hear his moans and questions if I came.
I can't stay sober when I cheat on you.
I'm such a coward that I can't even face this inner monster.
It consumes me, it takes away my dignity.
It makes me do horrible things.
It hurts you, the only one who ever loved me.
Who knows what I am?
No. It's not the monster. It's me. I am the whore.
I dig my nails into your soft flesh until it bleeds.
I am the one pushing you away, feasting on your kindness.
I blame those hard punches of my past for my infidelity.
Those cruel hands. Those hateful words.
I try not to, I do.
I try to be a better person.
But how can I if I am just nobody?
You know why I leave. Yet you stay. You're there when I'm back.
With your sorrow and tears and resentment and wrath.
Why?

If I'm broken because of my pain what's your excuse?
Why do you keep letting me treat you like a stray dog?
Don't you have any respect for yourself?
What the fuck is wrong with you?
And just when I think I have my own slave for life you break the cycle.
You shut the door with a grimace of relief.
You can't look at me anymore.
See, you're finally free!
My inner innocent girl is happy for you.
But the monster inside kicks and laughs at me.
I'm left alone.
I dress up and go hunting.

3. ***

The first fall made me stronger

Another and then the other one made me hollow inside

The last fall will break me

But I will survive

4. ***

Let's meet in this dark alley
on this anonymous corner
under that dirty strip club
Let's fuck on this homeless bench
in this stinky bathroom
Let's get what we think we want
what we wish we could have
Come on baby
make me your whore
I will make you my toy
Let's fight each other
Let's forget that we don't understand what love tastes like
Let's pretend we're holding hands
when the sun sets in the East

5. ***

Stone

Cold

Heart

Black

Spirit

City

Of

Dark

Angels

I

Am

Drowning