

## Fortress

You called for me  
From your castle down below.

From my wilderness  
I heard you  
And came your way.

Your gate was down and I came in.  
Verdant gardens,  
Resplendent -  
Greeted me.

Enchanted,  
I dismounted.  
I lowered my sword.

The birds sang  
And I think so did you.  
I unstrapped my armor.

Across the plaza I saw you.  
Did you wave  
As you turned into a door?

I followed.

You did wave.  
Did you smile?

Into the castle I went  
Excited to know you.

Until I lost sight.  
As I searched for you  
I became lost.  
And anxious.

Where were you?  
What was I doing?

Where was my armor?  
My sword?

Hope ebbing  
I sought to depart.  
I caught glimpse of you again

And so I gave chase.  
But now you ran.

Again and again  
The same.  
There, then not.  
Were you even real?

I rested.  
You appeared.

You took my hand  
And led me further into the castle.  
I could not say no.

But I did not know  
Where I was.  
And I started to wonder  
Who I was.

So I let go  
Of your beautiful hand  
And its promise.

This surprised you.

And so began  
My search  
To return to the gardens  
And perhaps  
my lonely wilderness.

You followed and  
Sometimes we held hands.  
Even kissed.  
But who were you?  
I wanted to know  
But maybe I would not.

Sometimes windows  
Often doors  
But also dark corridors  
And no direction.

And I even bed you  
Now and then.  
And it was glorious.

But you would not speak  
From the heart.  
What were your dreams?  
Your fears?  
Your desires?

I found myself  
Again in your gardens  
Resplendent.  
I saw you across the plaza.  
You waved.

But your song now rang hollow.  
My longing  
Exceeding my joy.

I entered the wilderness once again.