

POETRY

Padlock on Each Pulse

Elnaz Shahnnavazi

This poem depicts the struggles between the body and soul, a Man's fear of death, and his efforts to evade fate.

Man listens
Every night
Hears a trot
The death angel, circling
Around the big blue cannibal

Man hastens
Locks the soul up
Soul cannot move around
After midnight
Moments of dream and delight

Man keeps the body warm
Remaining young
Not to give excuses to
The one with the desire to fly

Body scared of the cannibal
For its end is final

The man finds a volcano
In the countryside
Throws away the key
Nevertheless
The key was found
In the core of the cannibal
The man has no idea

The death angel sighs
The contract with the cannibal
Has been put off
Delivers the key
Unlocks
Every single padlock
On each pulse



Author's Note

Elnaz Shahnnavazi is a 28-year-old student from southern Iran, studying English Literature at Azad University of Tehran. Since she started writing poetry, she has been inspired by nature and often uses natural events to represent human experiences. Elnaz loves themes of darkness and fantasy. She focuses on storytelling, monologue, and dialogue in a poetic form to uncover lessons that resonate with the human experience.