

The Metamorphosis of the Deified

By Nicholas Denmon

She sways in, a palm frond pushed to and fro from internal storm. Seduced by Ovid, she pounces like a New Orleans bordello kitten. Red lips call me God. She swears I deserve a decadent disciple so she drops to her knees, kneading hotel carpet, pleading for me to need her, she pleases me to be pleased. She prays and calls my Name, looking for escape, for entrance, for escalating ecstasy. Blood-red lips sing the Siren songs wrapped in fresh-rolled Virginia gold. There is naught to be found virgin of her body nor her soul.

I issue penance. Then I issue punishment.

Darkness descends upon me despite the simmering sheen of her slinking hips, a blue-freckled cheek guides me in, the North Star in the night, beyond her slopping southern sphere. She is my Anthemusa. She says she loves me, that she never stopped. Begs me not to stop, so stopping ceases to exist. She defies the damned and deifies before my eyes, a hellcat turned Helene.

We watch the wall as withering flames cast shadows in silent silhouettes that stand sentry to our sense of reality. Chained to the cave, Plato mocks our constructions, and laughs how love and lust can make Gods of men. And when the wine abates we part. Flying west, chasing the falling fire, I call out to Persephone knowing all the while that wings of wax will touch the sun, a certain swelter shall leave the wreckage of the heart to smolder.

Nicholas Denmon bio: Nicholas Denmon studied English at the University of Florida. He started story telling from the moment he could talk and has spent a lifetime perfecting the art. He has authored the best-selling crime novel, *For Nothing*, as well as its sequel *Buffalo Soldiers*. The final installment of his *An Upstate New York Mafia Tale*, *Ashes to Ashes*, is due out later in 2015. He also has another release scheduled for a coming of age novel, *The Hundred Heartbreaks of Harlan Halifax*. His life has been varied, giving him no shortage of material. Some of his unique experiences include growing up with a schizophrenic mother, having six brothers and sisters (of which he is the middle-younger child), a perfectionist father, an evil step-mother, a college life to rival Tucker Max, and working for politicians on the Presidential as well as local stage. He has been, at times, a devout Catholic, a closet atheist, and an honorary member of the Jewish tribe. Nick's joy of art knows little in the way of limitations, as he loves unique paintings, music, acting, film, and of course writing.