



0. My Sister - Story Preface

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MY SISTER

By Janice Veldman

*She came
bringing her presence
light when I no longer
could open my eyes
she knew not to bring flowers
for they all die
leaving a stench
filling the room
with the unwanted smell of death*

*she came in the winter
when it was cold
she brought a bulb
taking her time
she gently
planted the bulb
deep within the soil of my heart
leaving with it the hope of spring
when it would bloom
bringing a scent
reminding me of her presence
she sat next to me
quietly spoke
when I no longer could speak
said thank you
when I uttered a few grunts
for she knew me well
understanding what I said
took my hand gently squeezed it
though I could not squeeze hers
bringing me comfort
when I no longer could find it on my own*

*she had to leave
of course, they all have to leave
but when she left
she left something behind
the lingering gift of presence*

*who but her
could do such a thing
only one
my sister*

See Alignments to State and Common Core standards for this story online at:

<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicAlignment/My-Sister>

See Learning Tasks for this story online at:

<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicActivities/My-Sister>