

***Train of Thought***

**I rode on through the darkness  
metal on metal screams  
Past and present merging on one lonely battle strewn landscape  
as mountains embrace the pale sky  
Birthed from the rock just for me  
just for my need to see them  
and so time rolled on  
There had been a place  
desolate and burdened with ghosts  
impatient with the rubble scattered among  
iron mongerey and listless smoke  
Something that called to someone in me  
My heart longed for it  
or her heart  
was drawn to these broken images that were no more alive than her soul  
then me  
then her  
And she and I danced our way between the tangled weeds  
and alleys of quiet yet not so quiet alone  
The pallets stacked like the still breathing and bleeding bodies of too seasoned wood  
Teasing damp corners with shadows that waited like an only sleeping dog  
pretending to be dead in close lidded silence  
and waiting to be undone with murderous intent  
At last and reluctantly she was pulled back from the  
broken bottles  
back from the rusted bed springs  
back from the rotted paper corpses  
and up we still rolled on**

Then oh holy green upon green and delicious silence  
stripped away like vines from the dying oak  
Tall aged sentries that stir but little in slow breezes  
And I  
and the other one  
who ran to the stagnant streams as if to mother's breast  
and drank from thirsty puddles of cool fluid  
Deeper still became the pull of dark green secrets and rough skin  
and the other lowered her trembling, naked body  
onto the warm jagged rocks and slept unburdened  
And I alone rolled on through the night  
I alone sat captive audience and tried to strangle fear and eat the questions raw  
I alone wrestled with the broken images in my broken heart  
I alone heard the whistles gathering more ghosts in the dark  
I alone rode on through the starless sky  
I alone  
Her forgotten  
them and then and now  
merged as one  
swallowed whole and digested by the rushing, starving  
dawn of eternity  
and still...  
The train rolled on