

Creative writing exercise about a monster **due on Sunday by midnight (150-250 words)**. No responses from classmates this week. I will respond to your posts instead.

- This is a creative exercise so that you could write a short essay style response, or even a poem (any format) to express a moment in your life that explores a personal event in which you were subjected to monstrosity or where you became a monster yourself, witnessed monstrosity in action, or saw past the “monster” to something underneath. This could be verse or prose and explore a question about what makes something or someone “monstrous,” and you may draw from the reading this week.
- This will be a little different from how the rest of the discussions go, but I wanted to get to know you a little and your writing style as you do this activity.
- Email me if you have questions, but honestly, you are free to respond to this in whatever style you would like.
- If you do not feel comfortable posting this here, then you can email me instead.

Madison Bowles

A Monster Known as Relapse

Tiny and delicate,
But never frail.
She stands taller than gods.
Her strength is rivaled only by Atlas
As she upholds the burden of a world
Never meant to withstand a being such as her.
Her eyes hold endless swirls of the ocean,
Too dark and deep for any joy to pierce.
Her soul—though it still glows with gold--
Is hopelessly cracked,
For it is continually struck by a recidivous monster.
Twitching with a wide depraved smile,
It looms over her.
She fights tirelessly,
Indefinitely enduring her own demise.
But it is never enough.
From behind blackened teeth
Comes a villainous, victorious howl.
The monster has won once more.
Razor thin claws sink deep into her skin.
Venom ignites her bloodstream.
Life looks so far, now.
Climbing higher and higher,
Beyond the clouds and into the stars.
She dangles on the veil,
So light and lofty.
The gilded cracks of her soul widen
Until it crumbles,
And she slips into the unknown.

