



Darkness Detected, Mixed Media by Giselle Raya

She

Poem by Valeria Hernandez-Martinez

Some believe Lolita was a muse
 Mostly because She was depicted as having a choice in the matter
 We all knew She was suffering from abuse
 So why was there a surprise element at the end of her chapter?

Maybe it was because personalities like her are never believed
 How could someone so seductive be so clueless to her actions?
 But women like her are always perceived
 To like the reactions to their interactions

Men have never understood the concept of an independent woman
 A woman that does not need anyone but herself
 A woman that sees herself as a competent human
 And not as a piece of meat meant to gratify himself

I once saw Lolita as an inspiration
 A beautiful girl sought by a man who could give her everything
 She wanted
 Then I grew up and realized She was nothing but a figment of
 his imagination
 A twisted, sick mind in which She was concocted

He described her as his nymphet
 His favorite little girl who he could use without guilt
 His absence of sin alerted me that there was a limit
 But men don't understand limits until everything is spilled

I was groomed when I was a child, maybe twelve or thirteen
 He didn't care that I was well under eighteen
 Only that I didn't tell anyone and He could see me on his screen
 I was so happy that someone finally noticed me, not realizing
 I was only a tween

I will never forget the interactions I shared with him and the many
 that came after
 I blamed myself for believing they cared about me
 I told my friends and we all burst into a bout of laughter
 And that moment I knew who would make my life insufferable,
 He