

Nature's Ultimatum

Jen Hughes

Searching for my place in the universe is a monstrous task.
The universe is a huge place, incomprehensibly vast.
The darkness is isolating
Those in my circle don't know what it's like to have you
And even when I try to call out
I can't hear them over the screaming in my own head.

I've spoiled you because I love you.
I want you to do well.
I want to support you, be proud of your achievements.
But you are gutting everything I have
I'm trying to maintain life, a life with you
I try every goddamn day.
But I'm falling apart

I can't help it
The shaking. The stormy days. The floods
They were always there, but you're making them worse!
And you don't care how it affects me as long as
You are comfortable.

Your progress at my expense is eating me alive.

You are making my life hell
All you do is take advantage of my kindness
You're a thankless and ungrateful
Petulant, difficult child.
Draining me of whatever strength I have left.
You can see the holes you made in my soul
So why do you keep tearing more?

There's a point when I'll break down completely
Everything eradicated, damaged beyond repair
And I can't clean up the mess you've made.
I can't protect you from what's out there
From your own self-destruction
Dragging me down with you.

I must cleanse, purge what is toxic
Cruel to be kind to myself
I'm sorry.

You need to change your ways
I only have so much patience left to spare
If you don't change your ways
You're out.

The clock is ticking
So, it would be in your best interests
To listen to me.