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## The Bitter Truth

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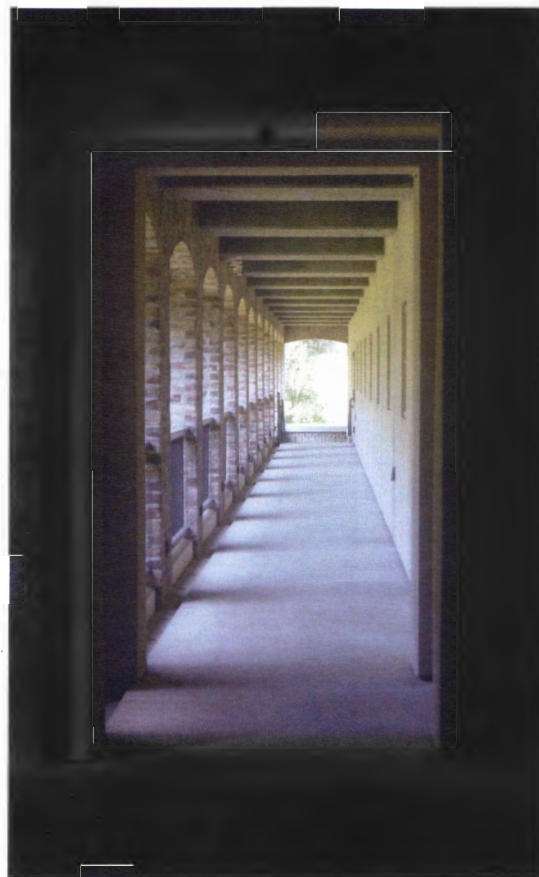
## **Cover Page Footnote**

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# The Bitter Truth

poem by  
Destinee Paynter

You, who live to please others,  
The strings attached to your arms  
that control you,  
lead directly to your heart.  
Every morning waking up  
already drained for the day,  
from all the tears your blue eyes cried  
inside.  
Your painted on smile, chipped—  
the last remnants of how falsified they are—  
the relationships you hold true to.  
The only protection of your one secret  
fading, from sheer loneliness  
and how the pain from holding it in  
consumes your mind,  
and the lingering taste of bitterness  
leaves a dreadful sickness  
that plagues you day in and day out.  
If nothing more  
than a lingering bout of disappointment  
hence, forevermore  
the taste of romantic dissent  
or a life, fully spent  
living a worthwhile tragedy.



**“Light at the End”  
Amanda Marchese**