

*s h a d o w l a n d*

Panji Hutomo

Dear You

I'm sorry it took so long  
for this book to find its way to you

It was lost and looking for you

Thank you for finding

for reading

for feeling

for understanding

these unspoken words

— Me

*shadowland*

I write of you

for you

# The Winter

I once saw a beautiful ocean  
It was tempting blue  
and I let myself jump into it  
I got deeper  
deeper until I felt myself  
getting deeper than I wanted  
But then I saw you  
I saw you in it making me realized  
it was you who had pulled me under  
Then when my barefoot touched the ocean floor  
you released your grip out of my hand  
left me alone drowning and wondering  
*Why have you drowned me?*  
I muttered  
*This is how you'll learn to swim*  
You coldly disappeared

I used to be an easel  
with a blank canvas  
I was thirsty for an art  
But I'm painted black

# The Spring

*shadowland*

I have fenced my home

with iron

Not to stop you from coming in

But to stop myself

from coming out



Look at where you are now  
Remember all the struggles  
that you've been through  
to get to where you are now  
And it would be a pointless walk  
to keep taking shelter  
from the storms that are coming to you  
while it's raining  
You've had me  
since it was only a cloudy sky  
So that  
I'm still here  
getting wet together with you  
in the stormy rain