

Moonburnt Smile

The hourglass is nearly empty.

Hey. Did you hear me? Time is almost up.

Please start to pick up your mess. You left your shoes near the yellow line.

They were crossing the line despite the “do not cross” sign.

And your sweet nothings.

Hurry up and swallow them whole; they’re too heavy to leave with me.

If you get lost, look to the sky. The stars are lost as well, but if you follow them, you’ll find what you’re looking for.

And don’t forget the song your brother wrote.

There are two copies: one is inside your pocket, the other underneath the sun.

Don’t burn yourself.

Lastly, collect all your disappointments.

Yours, your lover’s, your parent’s, your teacher’s, your ancestor’s.

When you reach the end of the line, burn them.

Let their ashes set ablaze the city.

I’ll miss you.

Your voice will be a distant memory soon.

But I’ll always remember your moon-burnt smile.