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Supernova Sonnet

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Supernova Sonnet

Brianna Gonzalez

Tucked in a corner of galaxy dust,
A giant star takes a shuddering breath.
Its surface has turned the color of rust,
A color all stars do when they near their
death.

The outer layer – hydrogen – is gone,
Helium hisses as it burns away.
Silicon, oxygen, carbon, neon,
They all burn off, but iron, cold and
gray.

Gravity pushes in, the star fights back,
The surface flickers like cigarette butts.
Abruptly it's over, the star turns black,
And paints the night with all its vivid
guts.

But even in death the star still burns
bright
And the gas is a home for newborn
light.