



# Sun Rising

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Published on Lush Stories on 30 Sep 2012

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*The final hours of darkness before the dawn.*

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The shadows of the night claw desperately to these rocks, Roiling in fear at the thought of the breaking of Day As it pours blinding light and heat over the soil and moss, Rending the darkness into pieces, Exploding the monsters to nothingness, Squeezing rainbows into the dewdrops Before wiping them up and consigning them to feral history. These grey-green morning mists choke the earth Before they are made pure white And are scorched from the fear-ridden valleys In a wet, silken steam pierced and suffused By sunbeam spears that deliver A final thrust in Night's final throes. The bruised skies overhead await the arrival anxiously, The starry guardians of those lost in the nightmare Wink out, the watchlight lanterns gone from their stations, And no creature stirs before this pre-dawn audience, The ghouls glaring down into the amphitheatre, The ghosts silently moaning as they tremble, The poltergeists bound in their rage, That one more hour was not theirs. Earth groans. Barren, desolate, Spirit-bound, Spectre-ridden, Mist-bound, Memory-ridden, Fear-bound, And self-loathing seeps in all directions, Fear-sodden reeking soil, a mire of wishing for death. And then the skies, in their paling colour, A growing wan of pastel lightening, Heave and groan as the sun breaks Through monstrous, swollen clouds, Rays of golden, powerful arrows, Blinding sword-strokes of flaming steel Cutting down the hedges of fear And exposing the final denisons of Night In a single, majestic, universe-heavy thrust. The last nightmares gallop away As dawn is poured over the lands, The foul bogs and stinking carcasses are kissed With a joy that calls forth the once-lost seedlings Of tiny flowers, of fruit trees and fragrant shrubs. And I lie, fear-racked, in this pre-dawn, heaving darkness, Waiting for the breaking of your smile To pour over my sorrowful night And bring forth whatever joy Could rise from this steaming, stinking, barren earth That I have become. Chase the night shadows from my life With your smile, And I shall grow and blossom And learn to love Under your caress.