

**“The Slam-Door Spider”**

An uncommon species if not unfamiliar,  
But still as potent to all who encounter  
A web of deception is a common occurrence;  
To entice its victim by appearing as a victim

A spider of two legs that walks upright  
Behavior by name is Slam-Door, out-of-sight.  
A response to the world all guilty of something;  
Inciting her anger, promoting her fight

In the depth of her heart, she is not at fault  
For any such causes of anger that wrought.  
Isolation from all, overlooking her lies;  
Than nodding their heads, and breathing a sigh

Slam-Door while young in the nest  
Account for this habit of nature regress.  
By leading its prey, innocence the lure;  
Sting convoluted by an image of pure.

Poison is not first an evident sign  
Attached to daughters by mother inclined.  
To reign over male, passive, and unspoken;  
His vices enough, but promises broken.

She seems noble in her nest full of splendor;  
But on the other, she overflows with venom galore:  
First serve the male with his pleasing delight;  
Than bite off his head and consume all his might.

Slam-Door spider middle-age in the nest;  
Pass on the symptom that leads to success;  
Bear-Down on the young and impress all control;  
Vanquish the male and disband all his soul.

**“The Slam-Door Spider”** (Continued)

From her nest or her lair, her will takes its toll  
On the young who shake at the sight of her coil.  
The plight is too much for the innocent who would follow;  
The might of the male they long for the morrow.

I am  
Restrained by the law to engage their well being;  
I am  
Constrained by her will and rage at his seeing;  
I fear  
Even footprints of the young that travel down ill-path,  
Toward the land of dysfunction of generations past

Slam-Door spider now aged in the nest  
Embroided with disgust why the young have all left;  
Walls all seething with bitter guile;  
Pray for the prey yet be defiled.

To tarry from the nest has never been her desire;  
Observe that this place is where to retire;  
Her image will burn as her anger in time –  
A reflection of her mother, a portrait of disdain  
Epilogue inscribed in the ill-colored walls –  
The poison inflicted in the essence of her fall.

## About the verse: “The Slam-Door Spider”

The title of this verse is a play on the species of the Trapdoor Spider: a spider that lays in wait beneath the camouflage of a makeshift door and emerges quickly to capture its victim. The similarity between the Trapdoor and figurative spider (Slam-door) is in the element of illusion (or deception) followed by the immediate, lethal result. The association or reference of the two is one of convenience: the figurative spider slams a figurative door to elude or escape potential discovery of its true nature; as with the Trapdoor spider, the door is a deception that is used to lead or take its victim into the lair.

The true nature of the Slam-Door is an obsession for power and control, pursued through treacherousness and scheming, and cloaked by the appearance as a victim. This appearance or deception, lethality dressed in innocence, can be effective in convincing the most discerning that she is a victim; however, the deception may gradually dissipate as the true nature surfaces through observation and experience. On such a discovery, the spider will *slam the door* or take flight while still continuing to spin its web of deception as a disposed victim. Those no longer convinced by her schemes are left *nodding their heads, and breathing a sigh*.

The figurative spider is far more lethal than her natural counterpart: not only does she have the element of disguise, but her appetite for power and control is accomplished through an arsenal of weapons to include anger, fury, accusations, shame, lies, and threats of abandonment – this is her poison! As with the generation before, she will try to pass down this behavior for control using all of these weapons as necessary – the end justifies the means!

But in deceiving or poisoning others, she also deceives or poisons herself. The *slamming of the door*, as the proverb would have it, has the dual effect of both escape and isolation, evasive and invasive consequences. Disguise and deception has an end and, at the least, the slam door spider will suffer by the continuing revelation of her true nature among those closest to her. Yes, some may not escape her trap, and as a consequence, will fall prey as both an object of her control and reflection of her essence, her true nature.