YOU SHORTENED HER WITH YOUR AXE

POETRY

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once upon a time, a seed grew into a tree
a rather small tree
she wanted a flower but she got another branch instead
but she didn’t complain
he’d decorate her with ribbons on liquid days
tighter and tighter
they say fathers and daughters are like shield and sword
I say he and I are more axe and tree and just
bored
then one day came
an axe
then came a crack
then came the river
of water
red water
not blood
just red water
laugh
that’s what he said to her
to laugh as she grew shorter and shorter and shorter and
but she didn’t complain