Joe Bruner Poetry Workshop III Partner Poem – 3/03/2015

## A Darker Shade – 2<sup>nd</sup> Draft

Deep within the Redwood forest, where fog wraps around the trees, I hear there is a flower that grows. Its petals midnight-black, dripping with viscous oil that seeps into the Earth, a burning, toxic ooze.

Look, the stars peek out from behind their velvet veil. You stare into the heavens, a sea of lights reflected in your eyes, as you soak in the time... millions of years past.

As we stand there, the sky clouds over, the hope of starlight gone.

Words whisper in the wind as you turn towards me. An ancient promise glows brightly in the stone ribs of the Earth.

In the midnight of a moonless night, in the darkest crevice of a cracked and fallen pillar, that black flower blooms, feeding on the despair suffused in the forgotten life of an immortal memory.