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We Never Will Be Gods

We Never Will Be Gods

by

Marissa Glover

In school, we're taught the soft spot—
expected to find comfort in Achilles' heel
or Superman's kryptonite. *They're just like us*

we imagine, rejoicing in their weakness, willing
Lex Luthor or Paris of Troy to discover the truth
we already know, prove the hero human.

But Achilles doesn't die from an arrow;
he's still living now, here, thousands of years
after the war has ended. And Superman

doesn't stay buried, no matter what the Batman
movie says. Gods and Superheroes always find a way
to resurrection. Don't kid yourself—

Doomsday is the fate of humans. We are mortal
to the end, if not because of our planet or parents
then because our weakness is hubris, the fatal flaw

buried deep in our heart. We secretly wish the hero
to die, cheer when the greatest among us stumbles.
Glued to the news—when the golden boy loses his luster

we take comfort, dancing in our own dull glow.