

BRANDED

She said she would never, only to renege
He's blindsided — *how could she?*

At his wrath, she pleads again and again
seeking mercy
her face contorting
her lips quivering
her eyes captured by tears
seeping through, melting his resistance

He whispers forgiveness, with conviction
for he needs to believe he'll forget
She smiles
delighted by his "kindness"
He smiles, her sting dwelling forever within