

Atlas in Love
Kristin Johnson

Holding up the heart-shaped world

He meets her eyes

All the love of man drips drips drips into his pores

Inspiring madness.

He offers her the whole earth

She wanted a box of chocolates

He covers the earth in chocolate

Till it hardens, a crust confining all life

Literal death by chocolate

At last Atlas attains affection

As the giantess swallows the earth whole

Alas for Atlas she has a chocolate allergy

So he does CPR

The earth flies out of her and crushes him flat.

Out of guilt and grief

The giantess holds up the world for eternity.

