

# Haunted

Carrie Newcomer

I've been hearing footsteps on the stairs  
Flip on the light and no one's there  
This is how we learn to navigate  
All ghosts and lingering wraiths

The things you try to hide will not be hid  
They said it didn't happen, but it did  
All the things that scared you as a kid  
In basement, underneath the bed

Haunted

If you look long into the dark  
Something will illuminate or spark  
If you wade where the silence is deep  
If you listen long enough it speaks

Not every haunting is redeemed  
But not every ghost is what it seems

When we name the dragons, dragons fall  
Armored flanks, flaming wings and all

Haunted

It's calling through the keyholes  
Underneath the doors  
Slipping through the windows and floorboards

Shameful stories, unmet needs  
Old ideas and even older deeds  
It's safe to finally release  
The shadows of all these

It's dangerous to live in a normal world  
When you're not an ordinary girl  
For years in dusty attics you could find  
Where the mad and voiceless were confined

Haunted