

## The Pink Slip

Terry R. A. Eissfeldt

Insatiable, that's how I'm described.  
Persistent, irrevocable, like a dog with a bone.  
I don't give up until the job is done.

Can you imagine my horror and shock  
when I was given the pink slip?  
You know...  
The pink slip...  
Notice that my services are no longer required.

Yet, I was born for this job.  
Perfectly crafted.  
No one in all the universe  
is as capable, or willing,  
to do the job.

My father led the most successful campaign  
against the establishment.  
By his very act my mother was born  
and then she gave birth to me...\*

No, not the best pedigree, I admit,  
But still the exact formula  
needed to create  
the perfect entity  
for the job.

I guess you could describe me as  
the clean up man:  
I finish what my parents start

And I thought I had finished the job  
where this man was concerned.  
I had him in my grip!  
I finished him off like all the rest.

When he first showed up,  
telling everyone  
"I'm the Man"  
I knew he had to go.

My parents recognized him.  
"Yes, finally," they gleefully announced,  
"the boss's son is here."

They told me to keep him in my sights.  
I followed him around for a while

and then I teased a few weaklings  
to join in the game  
And when the time was right...

CHECKMATE

Man, you should have been at the party!  
It lasted two whole days.  
I was the toast of the town.  
My parents were so proud.

But then the sun rose on the third day.

And he...he...he...  
came striding over to me  
To me! The Finisher!

He told me my days were numbered.  
My parents just sat there  
cowering...  
Apparently, they already knew  
their days were numbered.  
They thought that if I finished  
him off somehow we'd all be free.

We were all shocked  
when he took the keys away  
from the old man.

And he looked so smug  
when he gave me the  
Pink Slip

But when I looked at it  
I didn't see pink  
I saw red.

I can't believe  
he fired me...  
me...  
DEATH!

\*according to Milton's Paradise Lost Death is the result of Lucifer giving birth to Sin  
then joining with her to create Death.

Revelation 21:4  
"...there will no longer be any death."