

## Latticework

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sit to rest and notice trees  
stretch from their base  
into the unseen sky above  
canopy over your head  
tie together their leaves  
and block the light

roots twist and snake around you  
slow as a seductive python  
weaving an unbreakable lattice  
tricking you into falling for her  
hypnotically erasing your memory  
of the forest as it slowly starts to  
strangle you

*i'll keep you safe* she lies  
you'll want to trust  
the transforming roots

don't

time to run now  
before roots actually turn  
to python and you are crushed  
in rough twisted embrace  
and can no longer escape the  
world she created for you in a  
trance undistinguishable from  
the very real roots  
growing, snaking, squeezing  
around you distracting from  
the mangos you still have to reach