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## Ever Tangled Ivory Essence

Lillie Vermillion

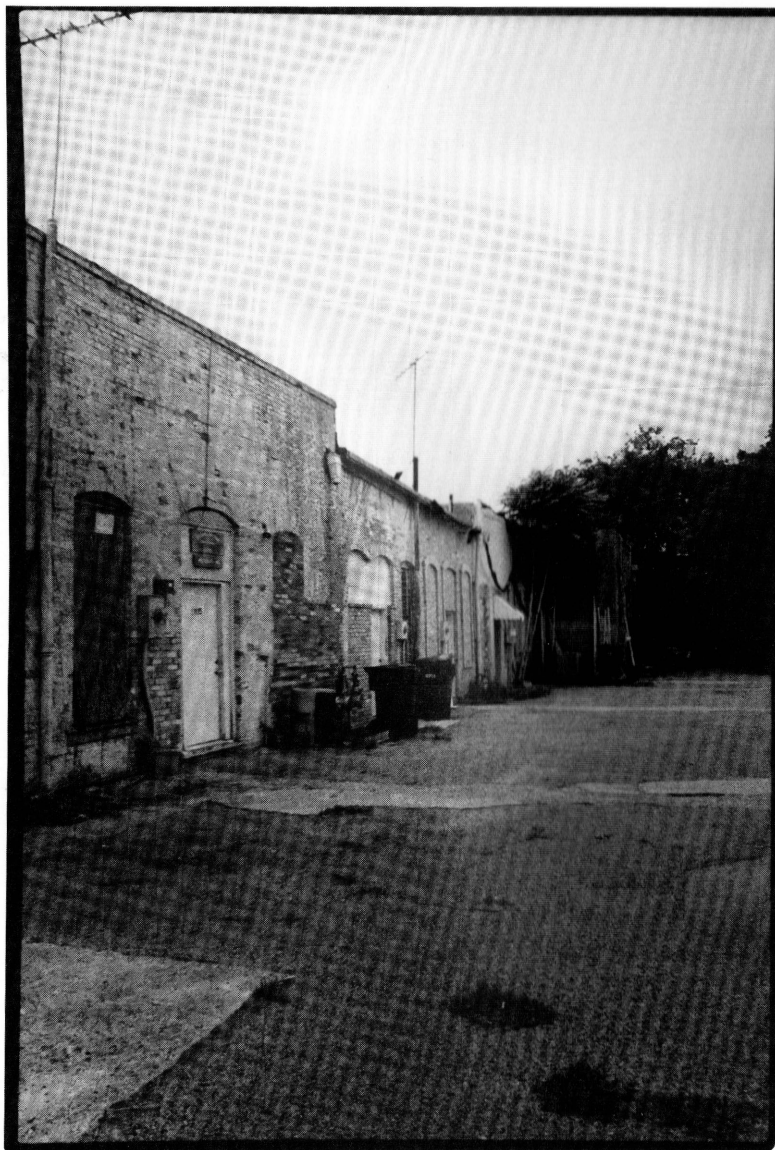
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S. Benoit

## EVER TANGLED IVORY ESSENCE

*Lillie Vermillion*

*A*  
heavy mist hung over  
the darkened trees.  
Deep shadows haunted the jungle floor.  
Whispers lurked upon every leaf.  
Imagined movements danced beyond sight.  
Then in a slow methodical chant,  
Drums of nature beat their way closer:  
The steady tread of an ancient beast.  
In one majestic crush of foliage,  
There stood the Fortress.  
Twin ivory towers raised.  
Mighty trumpet extended.  
The gray fortress raised,  
On two pillars of stone.  
The trumpet thundered.  
The fortress dropped,  
The jungle shuttered.  
The beast vanished.  
Leaving a wake of waving branches.  
Silence rang through the trees,  
Stilling trembling leaves.  
Echoing through the mist,  
The shroud of things unseen,  
The calling of a  
king.