

# Gloriously Brok3n

By Melanie Burton, March 2025

*“For now we see through a **glass, darkly**; but then **face to face**;  
now **I know in part**; but then shall I know **even as also I am known.**”*

*1 Corinthians 13:12*

If you are broken  
It's the middle of the story  
conflict meeting struggle  
Before eternal resolution and the joyful ending appears

It was written in the stars  
That so it would be  
Disillusionment and discouragement become the miracle  
A repeating pattern of birth and becoming

The baby chick peeks; and  
with hard-fought purpose  
emerges from a pecked eggshell  
The breaking necessary for newborn strength

Sea waves break constantly and relentlessly on shorelines  
framing my favorite places on earth  
In the crashing is contradictory calm  
In the pummel is peace

We seek out the pristine seashell  
Yet such a mortally perfect shell is devoid of story  
Bearing no soul scars of experience-  
the harsh battering by rock after rock

Rays of sunrise part the night,  
splintering darkness for those  
afraid of cold and shadow  
Bringing warm sun because of The Son

Nature's cocoons unveil glorious transformation  
And if a butterfly wing is injured in flight  
subsequent soaring after healing  
is ever more majestic

Smooth weathered sea glass  
sits soft in my vulnerable hand  
Past sharp edges cause no pain  
Sharp made soothing by ocean's tumbling sand

The unbroken stand unyielding; hard,  
searing, cutting, salty and bitter  
Holiness and true beauty can only be seen  
In the shiny shards of those who wait for mercy

Light recognizes refined light  
My broken pairs with the eternally like-minded  
Those with purpose and piercing resolve  
To see beyond a horizon of doubt

The shattered are made whole, sealed by grace  
The tattered bound in the arms of Deity.  
Brokenness inherent to pure endless sight  
Through His infinite promise-all will be made right.