Summary

Jonathan Randall reflects on the two forms of his beloved, “David”

Notes

See the end of the work for notes

And it came to pass, when he had made an end of speaking unto Saul, that the soul of Jonathan was knit with the soul of David, and Jonathan loved him as his own soul.

I Samuel 18:1

to David: my brother, my lover
to David, the son of my Father
to David, the son of my Enemy

I am Jonathan, the son of God
I am Jonathan, the son of the Devil

You are David:
the leader and warrior
the king of men
bold, brave

You are David:
the cleric and poet
the quiet scholar
meek, humble

One man, two archetypes:
Tall, hulking, muscular
Large hands, large feet
Head crowned with a mop of ruddy curls
Slender, lithe, lean
A youthful line from chest to buttock
Long, dark locks hanging down past your shoulders

Despite your apparent contrasts, you coalesce:
You are a man of God, upright and pure
You are the anointed one, chosen from among the masses
And you are mine!

But we are torn apart by hate and war
You flee from tyrannous law
Yet you are innocent
The world seeks to steal you from me:
Each of you, seduced by Bathsheba—drawn from godliness by the whore that is woman
You have abandoned me, my dear friend

Return to me, my David
Uphold your covenant to me
That we shall be bound together, by blood

End Notes

I first conceptualized this piece after the reference to Michelangelo’s Pietà in the season one finale (See vulture.com). It got me thinking about Michelangelo’s other sculptures, specifically the David, due to the connection between David and the Christ in Christian typology.

Then, as an art student, I’ve always been intrigued by the contrasting representations of David by Michelangelo and Donatello. Finally, I remembered the Black Jack’s given name was Jonathan, and the pieces sort of fell into place (in my mind, at least).

In case it’s not clear, Jonathan represents Jonathan “Black Jack” Randall, and David represents both Jamie Fraser and Alex Randall.
I hope you enjoyed this strange little piece; if nothing else, you’ve learned more about how my wonky mind works ;)

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