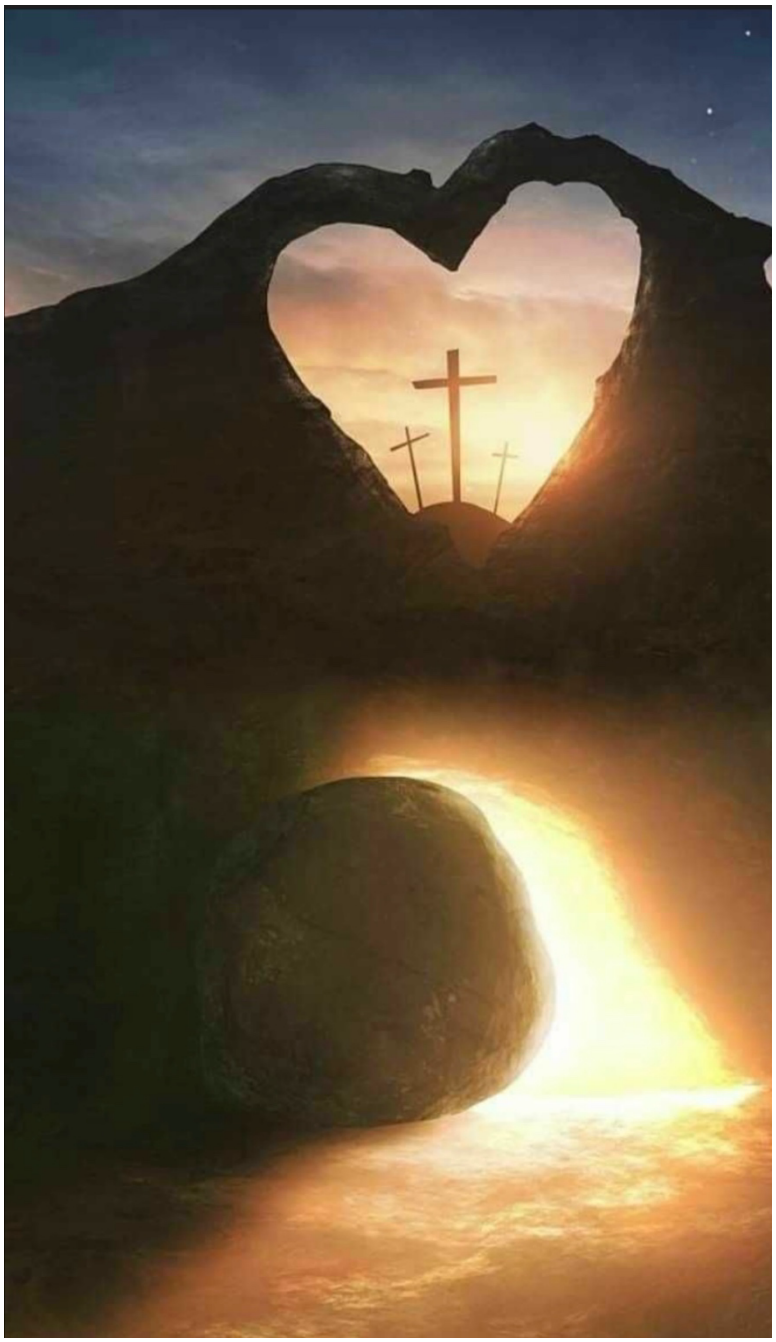
✨TRADED (a Summer Series)

"I have swept away your sins like a thick cloud. I have made your guilt vanish like mist disappearing into thin air. Now come back, come back to Me, for I have paid the highest price for you." Isaiah 44:22 (TPT)



'I'm in trading,' he whispered conspiratorially. 'While I'm here, I just like to watch. I analyze. Everything. All the probabilities and predictabilities.' A furtive smile played hide-n-seek with his lips like he'd eaten a secret. 'What about you? You play?' he asked, with interest. All around me the machines jangled and dinged, singing an obnoxious cadence that threatened to hypnotize, the brilliant flashing colorful lights, every hue of the rainbow. I shook my head, hoping to dispel the cacophony ringing in my spirit. 'No sir,' I replied, 'but I do like numbers, so it's fascinating for me to watch. Do you like numbers? I mean, since you're in trading.' It was his turn to shake his head. 'Naw, but what I do like is the combinations, all the possibilities.'

Made me think of a holy God. He looked at humanity and thought about all the possibilities. Even amidst the predictabilities and probabilities of mankind, He chose to place a bet on me. He took a risk on me. And what's more, He gave. He gave His son to buy me back. He was in trading too. He traded His everything for my nothing. The throne, the glory, the kingdom, the eternity, the Father's love, He traded it all for my shame, for my redemption. He saw me as a commodity when I had no worth, nothing of value, no potential to win anything back in exchange for the chance He took on me.

I think of all my wandering. The years I spent stumbling through life, an enigma to myself and others, but fully known by a holy God. I traded also. I sold Him out every time. The treasure He promised, I buried; the great riches of His love, I continuously squandered, gambling His grace on the table of my enemies. But He never gave up, the wealth of His love He wagered to buy me back. I was a long shot for a righteous God, but He put stock in me. He exchanged my past for eternity, and today, I am so grateful that He chose me as an asset and bet on me.