A Faire Exchange sharkrags

Like so many others, I had debts to pay and mouths to feed. Desperation pushed me to seek out the wrong people, naivete persuaded me to accept their terms, and foolishness piled my dues with hasty favors and promises I could never keep, but lying to yourself is always easy. In the end, the mistakes are my own, and I only hope I made them in good faith.

When I couldn't honor my bargains, my benefactors allowed compromises. I eagerly accepted their leniency, alongside its mounting cost. The only thing I bought for myself in the end was time and now I am told that time has run out.

My benefactors didn't expect money or blood for my missing recompense. No, my lenders weren't gussied up criminals doling out coins in the shadows. These folk bartered in open sunlight, and laughter came easily to their smiling faces, their manners oh-so kind and understanding.

As collateral, I used a token of my spirit to insure their trust. A small, invisible trifle and the only thing I could spare at the time. On the morning my debt was called, they did not demand, but offered a collar and bell. A fine strip of leather and polished metal for a debtor.

"It's all yours," they told me.
Their generosity is without
limit, and that's what makes
them dangerous.







