

## (from) MY LOVER IS A WOMAN

By Pat Parker

I.

my lover is a woman  
& when i hold her  
feel her warmth  
    i feel good  
    feel safe

then—i never think of  
my family's voices  
never hear my sisters say  
bulldaggers, queers, funny  
    come see us, but don't  
    bring your friends  
        it's ok with us,  
        but don't tell mama  
        it'd break her heart  
never feel my father  
turn in his grave  
never hear my mother cry  
Lord, what kind of child is this?



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POEMS