

# New Directions

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## Poems

Editorial Staff

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**A Woman Is a Woman Is a Woman**

For the sweet  
Is to grasp the time,  
To hold the fragrance  
Of inner life.  
The eternal of being is  
Unlike the likeness of love and life.

A woman  
If she is  
Is a woman  
If she is  
Is a woman  
If she is  
A woman.

She is joy and laughter.  
Touch her  
And feel beauty.  
Know her  
And seek truth.  
The giving, living, forgiving  
A woman is.

To soothe her, groove her, move her  
Reach out to her.  
A woman is a woman is a woman  
Evolved, revolved with time.  
A woman is changing sunrays . . .  
Is a woman like a rainbow.

A woman of all centuries  
A woman of today  
A woman of tomorrow beyond  
A woman is . . .  
Where is she going?

. . . Though the sounds she hears  
Are new  
Are not all her own.

For a woman is survival and strength  
She *is* the Universe!  
And her dreams are her only boundaries.

A woman is a woman is a woman

She is beyond the beauty of just being  
She is beyond the waiting smile  
She is beyond motherhood, wifehood,  
womanhood  
She is peoplehood, personhood  
All she is individualhood.

A woman is a woman is a woman  
Finding the beauty of real beauty  
A little piece  
At a time.

Margaret A. Gay  
*Howard University*

**Contrast**

**I: Youth**

She looks in a mirror  
And smiles at the sight,  
She thrills to the image  
So joyous and bright,  
And whispers:  
"How lovely I am!"

**II: Age**

She looks in a mirror  
And casts it aside,  
Declaring to heaven  
That the glass lied.  
She places the mirror  
Face down on a shelf,  
And leaves it there  
Through fear of herself.

Valerie Parks Brown  
*Howard University*

# NEW DIRECTIONS

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