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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
Above 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