



2020

Today I Finally Cried

Harriet Norcross

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholarsarchive.byu.edu/awe>



Part of the [Feminist, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Commons](#), and the [Poetry Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Norcross, Harriet (2020) "Today I Finally Cried," *AWE (A Woman's Experience)*: Vol. 7, Article 13.
Available at: <https://scholarsarchive.byu.edu/awe/vol7/iss1/13>

This Poem is brought to you for free and open access by the Journals at BYU ScholarsArchive. It has been accepted for inclusion in *AWE (A Woman's Experience)* by an authorized editor of BYU ScholarsArchive. For more information, please contact ellen_amatangelo@byu.edu.

HARRIET NORCROSS

Today I Finally Cried

Today I cried on the phone to my mother
Because I felt unimportant
In comparison to the men
In my church
At my school
In my culture.

I was hurt
I was frustrated
Because my religion professor
Did not know
A woman's perspective.

You don't understand—
I want to speak to my Mother.

And I cried
On the curb.
The pent-up sorrows and
The oppression flowing,
Pouring out of me as I guess they'd wanted to do
For a long time now.

The sobs came
With tears
Heaving from my body
In hot, panicked cries.
I hadn't known
They'd been wanting to get out.

I hurt.
I felt devalued
And unwanted—
Unnecessary.

And a voice told me:
My Heavenly Parents

Wouldn't want me to feel unimportant.
They would want me to feel valued
And wanted—

Because I am
Their daughter
And if I know anything, it is that
They love me
And want me . . .
They created me.

There, as I split apart in my anguish,
They ached with each of my tears.
Said,
Just hold on.
One day this will end.
We know so much more than you
And this isn't the way it truly will be.

They were pained at my sorrow,
Looked down and wished
They could explain it all—
How I have a great deal to do
How I am no less than my brother.

Sometimes when I say
I believe
It is more of a hope.
I hope
And I remember

That I know:
I am loved
I am with purpose
And
I am Their daughter—meaning
Important.

And I think I will cry
On the curb
More times than just today.
But eventually
He
And I
Will understand why.