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## Mother and Her Sweet Child

Naganandhini N.R.

My mother hates me when I say,  
“I know not that way.”  
She raves on, “o young one,  
Know you not who elders are?  
Learn to be at your formidable bay.

My mother hates me when I say,  
“I cannot do that thing!”  
She broods on, “o what art thou but a foolish brand!  
Do you not know how full-grown you stand?  
Kick thy bitter excuses away, and I will kill you if you dare to verbally sting back.”

My mother hates me when I say  
“I do not agree with you, Amma.”  
She jumps, skittering in fury bursts: “Thy mother knows than thee better,  
“Talk not back. Else, I will tie and twist thy tongue in grave fetter!”  
My mouth pulls a despicable frown anew, and I retire.

My mother hates herself,  
When I am sad and say zilch but speak in soliloquy  
She always says at ease, “Forget it, my dear child! From now on, respectfully be wise and  
stay vigil.”

“Amma, how much do you love me really?” one night I asked tenderly  
Pointing at a fantastical acme of Kailasha airily, she smiled, expanding her hands wider...

“When I also love you the same, why is it improper to say,  
You look like me, and not I look like you, Amma, Amma!” I argued.  
She laughed and elucidated,

“As we are and can never be the same

I am your mother, and you shall be my sweet child always.”

**Brief Bio:**

Naganandhini N.R. is a passionate literature student and has been a poet since her late teenage years. Her blog on WordPress is a testament to her consistency and dedication, an abode to more than one thousand and five hundred poems. Nandhini is a postgraduate of English literature and an aspiring research scholar. Her areas of interest include Memory Studies, Indian Mythology, Indian Philosophy and Digital Indian Graphic Narratives.

The link to her blog on WordPress is [www.ravenashes.wordpress.com](http://www.ravenashes.wordpress.com)