In the Wake of Home

By Adrienne Rich

1.

You sleep in a room with bluegreen curtains posters a pile of animals on the bed A woman and a man who love you and each other slip the door ajar you are almost asleep they crouch in turn to stroke your hair you never wake

This happens every night for years. This never happened.

2.

Your lips steady never say

It should have been this way

That's not what you say

You so carefully not asking, Why?

Your eyes looking straight in mine

remind me of a woman's

auburn hair my mother's hair

but you never saw that hair

The family coil so twisted, tight and loose anyone trying to leave has to strafe the field burn the premise down

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