

May 2016

The Lesbian's Burden

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Recommended Citation

Poehner, Caterina (2016) "The Lesbian's Burden," *Culture, Society and Praxis*: Vol. 9 : No. 1 , Article 6.
Available at: <https://digitalcommons.csumb.edu/csp/vol9/iss1/6>

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The Lesbians Burden

By Caterina Poehner

Add to the Lesbian's Burden-
To girly to be gay or otherwise not womanly enough
Pressured through life to love a man
If she says "NO" to him he might give it to her rough.
To love someone
Is not a choice, it's a sin,
But if she insists it isn't
They will shut down her voice and put her in a pin

Add to the Lesbian's Burden-
If she's girly, "you're too pretty to be gay!"
And if you're gender expression is boyish
"You have to change some way!"
Suffering through emotions and confusion
Being told you're sick and wrong,
When you find someone you love
Too bad, forever you will long.

Add to the Lesbian's Burden-
She's a faggot, no a dyke,
Among society they ask you, "who's your boyfriend"
And "this is Mike"
Taught to wait for prince charming and she's confused
Why can't my prince be named Shawna?
She tells her mother how much she loves her, but she's not amused.

Add to the Lesbian's Burden-
Asking herself "why me?!"
At a young age feeling alone and different
Why can't society understand and see?
You can't choose who you fall for
But God-damn-it you should
Especially if that person is just like you
Same sex, same gender...if only she could.

Add to the Lesbian's Burden-
Go ahead tell her how you can make her straight
Don't worry if she's offended
Really don't worry, it's her weight.
She's just a man hater

Or maybe she is scared.
Perhaps it's just a faze
Wished her mother when she cared.

Add to the Lesbian's Burden-
Use her sexuality for porn,
But when she wants to marry the girl
Or you catch her kissing her girlfriend, look at them with scorn.
““There's no lesbian in my family” cries mom
“You're going to hell!”
The girls are told
“You shouldn't be together” they yell.
But the girls keep loving on.

Add to the Lesbian's Burden
Make sure she feels shame,
Make it known you don't accept her,
Because she's not the same.
She must face the world,
She is cursed to threaten womanhood,
Manhood, and heteronormativity
She is cursed to be misunderstood.
So add to the Lesbian's Burden
I'm sure you'll make her tough.

