

A Woman Free

by kamichi jackson

I was once a follower unsure of my next steps
and you took advantage of my misguidedness
but I have since found my way—
for I seek righteous directions to enlighten me in my course
lest your map of negativity lead me astray

I was once an emotional weakling
worn down by your barrage of hurtful words
but I have since grown strong—
for I seek refuge beneath an umbrella of self-esteem
lest your cloud of negativity rain upon me a shower of worthlessness

I was once afraid to confess my innermost thoughts
knowing your response would be one of anger
but I have since learned to give them voice—
for I shout above your cries of protest
lest your riot of negativity drown out my expressions

I was once held captive by your paranoia
a prisoner of your own insecurities
but I have since made my escape—
for I have broken down the walls that would restrict my space
lest your cell of negativity confine me even a moment longer against my will

I was once swimming in a sea of emotional want
gasping for lack of affection
but I have since been rescued—
for I have broken free of the weights you placed upon me
lest your chains of negativity cause me to sink down into unforgeable waters of sadness

I was once in constant craving for your attention
and you withheld even a drop of tenderness
but my thirst has since been quenched—
for I sip from the cups of those not afraid to love
lest your desert of negativity cause me to wander aimlessly in the rays of your hate

I was once at my very end
mere steps from the enemy death itself
but I have since been reborn—
for I exist as does a child with insuppressible vigor
lest your pallbearers of negativity mistake me for expired and bury me as one without the
sweet breath of life

You can hurt me no longer...for I am now a woman of strength
You can hurt me no longer...for I am now a woman of song
You can hurt me no longer...for I am now a woman free.