

# To My Parents

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ANONYMOUS

To my parents,

I wish you would listen to me when I tell you who I am.

I wish you would listen, then you would hear how much of your own messages I took to heart. When you told me to love everyone, I listened.

Why can't you?

I don't even think you listen to yourself sometimes.

You speak of loving unconditionally, yet I hear how you talk about people who do not look like you.

Why can't you show them unconditional love without judgment?

Judgment IS a condition

And it is not love.

You say that you love me, yet every essence of me you despise.

You hate that I don't fit the mold that you created when the doctor said,

"It's a baby girl."

I'm sorry I'm not your little girl

I am your child.

I hate the expectations of womanhood,

Don't get me wrong, I love women,

They are powerful creatures,

But society has too many standards,

I would rather just be seen as a person.

Gender is a performance, and I didn't join the cast.

I know you hate the name I picked out.

Even behind those cheap smiles and playful laughter, I can see the anger in your eyes.

You belittle my experience with your gaze.

You don't take me seriously.  
Is it because I'm a child?  
Is it because you perceive me as a woman?  
Or because I voice opinions that you disagree with?  
I wish I knew...

Whatever your reasoning is, it does not matter.  
You should still listen to me because I am a person.

I have value because I am.

~~Your daughter~~  
-Your child

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