

*JUST IN CASE YOU ARE LISTENING UP THERE*

*What I learned, I learned from you. I learned what to do and what not to do.*

*How to take long walks at night and how to pour out my soul.*

*I have peeked through my eyes only to find they were peering out the window of the world-*

*Watching husbands and wives trying to fight in order to stay together and walk away when the fight has left them.*

*I have.*

*I have taken it upon my small face; both kiss and slap and parted with hope and my first love.*

*Wondered what is right and wrong even when I knew the difference beforehand-*

*And flown so high into the air that right and wrong no longer mattered.*

*There has been visions passing –always sweet and those which linger like the smell of rotten meat.*

*I have stood amid the roar of hate when the creeping darkness causes me to weep and be misunderstood-*

*Yet I clasp at dream after dream.*

*All these things I carry with me-*

*And no fate, world, moon, or sun can find me when I am lonely.*

*Sometimes I sing in secret or to my kitten while he sniffs the lilac that grows out of place where there is my house-*

*But nobody knows my secrets-*

*Not the sky, my apple tree, the stars ... not even my kitten.*

*I wonder what keeps you from me when all I do is search for another glimpse-*

*When we shared something and you called me by another name-*

*One that meant mercy.*

*If you love me I love you too-*

*If you don't, then I still-*

*What I learned, I learned from you. I learned what to do and what not to do.*

*-G. MILLIGAN, APR. 2016*