

Heart

by Steph Lum

You can't fix her
Because there's nothing to fix
She's already perfect
But you did change her
You made her into something you wanted her to be
You changed your perfect daughter
You thought her body was not enough
Was different and weird and needed to be changed before anyone could love her
And in so doing
You made her feel that she was different and weird and that she needed to change before
anyone can love her
That her body is not enough, that she
is
not
enough
Thank goodness you can't see how big her heart is
Otherwise maybe you would try to cut that out too

Steph Lum is an Australian intersex advocate, poet and legal researcher. Steph is the founder and editor-in-chief of YOUth&I, a publication of writings and artwork by young intersex people from around the world and has been published in the Australian Poetry Journal and Not Very Quiet. Steph was previously a co-Chair of Intersex Human Rights Australia and a member of the LGBTIQ Ministerial Advisory Council of the Australian Capital Territory.