

Basket Lady

By Michelle Filler



Art

Definition

By Elizabeth Gallien

Poetry

Definition[def-uh-nish-un]

noun

1. formal or informal declaration of meaning or significance based upon restrictions and limitations that are formally or informally policed

the State defines
the Federal Government defines
society defines

but I am not

this limited definition
stitched between laws and lies
the thread snaps before it
ever sews my hands
together in prayer

to the God I cannot believe in
the God whose word infiltrates the laws
whose book tells my mother

I can never marry the woman
I love

whose book tells her

I will rest in flames
charring my body
in agony I'll scream
I will rot – flesh burning

'til only ashes remain

But I will find my own family

where I can build my own tree