

Speaking Explains Why

by Kaitlyn Kelly

I was born a sheltered beauty,
Skin wrapped in clothes
Restraining the splendor within.
Told to keep quiet,
Never speak with sound.
Give birth to daughters
Who have no voice.
I am a daughter
Who did not listen.
I spoke.

Flying without wings
Over the sea.

Unlocking the chains
Of those trapped in slavery.

Providing peace
With healing hands.

Saving a seat on a bus
For my entire race.

Creating awareness
Through conversations.

I stripped my clothes.
Revealed my skin.
Raised my voice.
I was heard.