# Conversations

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#### I'm hurting

### not in a cliché way

Daddy called and we spoke for the first time in ever about the weather/ my body subsequently his sorry for imparting infirmity subsequently my angry

and with the most kindness we'll assume it's God's fault



I wandered into this moment without awareness seconds split into dream hours which tend to feel like days at some point I was on my knees with no intentions vying to be in Godly reflection to hear a voice that fluctuates but purpose is cemented

and now all I want is your smile and hands placating mine because you made fun of my twisted arthritic gait and I'm cold and back-bent and you love being liked none of this makes much sense I'm charming and half of what I say is so you know you don't deserve me as much as I don't deserve me

> Lol that's true southern women are beautiful for many reasons, but I think what makes us great is that we love people too much to let them stay the way they are. We always want to elevate other people

You are new here

I do not know how I feel You said that, I don't grasp my own beauty.

"your father was wrong"

(I've never known what to do with people like you) (who under-appreciate my emotional intelligence) (and I don't love you so I don't say it)

and none of these things I am willing to explain my mouth will not part for you I rolled my eyes/forgot your face and grew a little less How many teeth do you have?

I do not have 32.

Trace your tongue around your gums for me and count. I have  $23\frac{1}{2}$ One broke last night after I drank an entire bottle of wine and I couldn't feel my face thank God I couldn't feel my face I had been waiting for it to deteriorate like the other 9 for some time Crohn's takes teeth away and love and light and running and dancing and me and I couldn't feel my face But there were tears and plenty of them

Lol I would have preferred one of your face to be honest. It seems impressive and I appreciate that but I want to study the intricacies of someone's smile before I ever really go there

is anymore

Is it a joke it feels like a joke

No no it's an anti joke cause this is not funny

I feel so bad I would even pity myself right now. Like I'm pitiful/full of pity and or capable of ensuing pity

Like ldk why I defined it

You let me be over-dramatic in the same way I let you love me without saying it

Come on back home Father said firmly baby gurl it'll all work out the floodgates have opened and heaven echoes your name

> we are watching sit up straight speak louder feel dignified feel heard feel better

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you are not less than anything or anyone
you don't have to represent all bruised bodied
and black faces
but you do
and you are well so it is well
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half beaten and sad as all hell you told me that other people live most when hating me

best and darlin friend who I hope and trust we've been martyrs long enough these catalytic hearts are just about used up

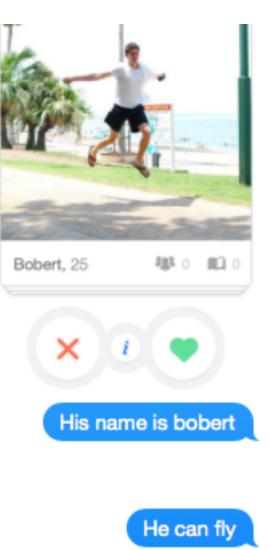
## Doctor called and said he wasn't sure

as if indecision isn't the mirror of iniquity as if iniquity isn't the reflection of me deserving this

every bit

you said you were not sure

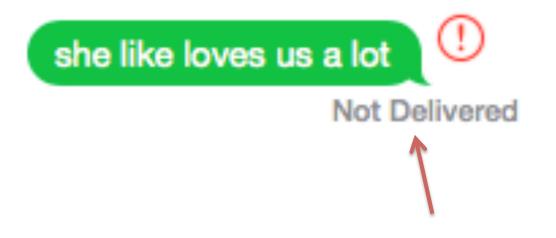
If wings were enough I would have grown them a long time ago



he's not real

cause he's not real

My mommy called and we talked about men and how they're always children from 21-51 there's no difference I don't want us to be a legacy of broken bones not-so-filament strong hearts with souls remade choosing the wrong mates for the right reasons and praying it won't burn when you know it will and we'll find someone who doesn't feel forced and we won't die alone and we'll have one another for quite some time but one day we won't and I will never forget to bury you in a dress and you will never forget to delete my facebook when my eyes are krazy-glued together forever and we know we won't die alone we will wait for one another asleep in the ground until God calls His people to heaven because you don't go to heaven when you die you go to sleep and we don't mind that I don't mind that not at all because rest is much needed and fear has no place because we don't feel forced and we won't die alone



Gabby and I mused over our history our paths were written into each other with speed and drunkenness

She said LaAndre-uh you think everything is racist Then followed with why can't people think outside of their bodies? Why can't people just stop being so stupid Why can't people walk through this world without hurting us?

I'm tired of them hurting us.

We shouldn't let them hurt us.

If only we knew how to keep them from hurting us.

After all all of them are not all that bad after all

Doctor called and he reluctantly said, "The test Prometheus shows that you have Crohn's"

For the second time someone said "You have Crohn's"

Which is the same as saying iniquity is yours and will always be. Didn't Prometheus give fire to man? Tall boy asked me what I was meant for

I replied

I'm meant for- humidity and sun and heat and sweat and stifling breezes and porches and grass and cookouts and fishfrys and sorta dirty community pools and family reunions full of people I don't fully know (but together our blood echoes) and summer and spring and fall but not winter because winter is everything I'm not he replied hours later saying that his phone had died

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> > Boom poetry!

## Did you see my art? Did you like it??



#### if you stop saying maybe you become more like yourself