



MOTHER TONGUE

when they stare at your mother
for not being able to speak the language
they are accustomed to hearing,
do not apologize for her to them.
they know nothing
of what it took for her to come here.
her body almost lost at sea,
only for them to mock her for a language she has perfected,
but still carries a sound they perceive as difficult,
leaving your mother
to fight another battle in a sea of endless battles
to just be heard.

her tongue that is already carrying her mother country
is trying to carry this one too.
when she is brave enough to speak,
do not silence her with your apology.
your tongue is like a blade,
only use it to stab the ignorance
that makes others feel better than.