

## **Against Me! "The Ocean"**

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If I could have chosen where God would hide his  
heaven,  
I would wish for it to be in the salt and swell of the  
ocean.  
Carried by the currents to all continents' shores.  
Reaching into depths where the sun's light has never  
shown.  
Mixed with algae and coral.  
Breathed in by sharks and dolphins.  
Sailed by tanker ships, private yachts, swam in by  
tourists.  
Working its way up through inlets, lakes, and rivers,  
swamps, and estuaries.  
Down through limestone into the aquifer.  
Purified by the county, pumped through pipes and out  
faucets.  
Filled into a glass to meet the thirst of our children.

If I could have chosen, I would have been born a  
woman.  
My mother once told me she would have named me  
Laura.  
I would grow up to be strong and beautiful like her.  
One day I'd find an honest man to make my husband.  
We would have two children, build our home on the  
Gulf of Mexico.  
Our family would spend hot summer days at the beach  
together.  
The sun would kiss our skin as we played in the sand  
and water.  
We would know we loved each other without having to  
say it.  
At night we would sleep with the windows of our house  
left open.  
Letting the cool ocean air soothe the sunburned  
shoulders of our children.

There is an Ocean in my soul where the waters do not  
curve.

