

Female yet not feminine enough by Leah Pawlik

The definition of female,
An ideology generated in our minds.
No purity is built within being female,
Nor does it provide us with flaws.
We each make our own definition.
We mould the word,
And we make it our own.

No pre-built foundation,
or toxic fumes stemming from damaged egos.
No feeling anxious about whether we are “right”,
Or whether we “belong”.
We provide uniqueness just being ourselves,
And joy for those around us.

We are not delicate servants to be scrutinised,
And questioned in times of power.
We are more than just a screw waiting to be fastened,
Or a puppy in need of a groom.

And yet when we are referred to as a “wo-man”,
Or even a “fe-male”.
Does the patriarchy glisten in your eyes?
Are we not worthy of our own title?

Let us normalise being normal.
Let us normalise being in power.
Let us normalise being in control.

Our emotions do not define us,
And neither does the sex we are given at birth.
We define ourselves,
And we define the ‘normal’,
Words are our slaves,
Not our masters.

So just let us be.