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No Violence, No Silence

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NO VIOLENCE, NO SILENCE

*A selection
of poetry
(Volume 1)*

Fathers, husbands, gods:
you will no longer decree
whom I wed or bed.
That choice is mine. To be free -
whether woman, river, stone.

Ahalya anew
by
Karthika Nair

I could give a damn
about outraged modesty
when it is my self
the totality of me
into which rage has been poured.

Usha Raman

In the dead of night
I walk upon the streets: Bravely
But, under the peril of watch dogs.
Night-life
by
Maadhava Anusuyaa

after violence,
that old family silence
passed on down to him
inheritance in blood
before violence
Susan Hawthorne

You would slit this tongue,
smother voice and bury
breath:
but what of my words?
Yes, words. Like blood, they
will spill,
stain air, earth — and
memory.

Antigone: remains
by
Karthika Nair

His gaze unzips me
from bus-stop to work and
back
wreaking possession.
Usha Raman