

LEVITICUS (LET US LIVE)

AVA DYMOND

OUT ON THE
SHELVES

Thou shalt not lie with mankind, as with womankind: it is an abomination
– Leviticus 18:22

“Ugh that's so gay”



Pieces of myself
I tuck away as I
adjust my collar
They'll never know

A friendship ruined
I think she knows but
chooses to ignore it
the elephant in every room

They think their words
hold no weight
But my eyes burn
with unshed tears

“Look they're holding hands and everything”

She tries to
separate me into
the Friend and
the Sinner

She claws at my insides
It shouldn't be possible to
feel guilty of something
I cannot control

She thinks that
she can change me
I let her believe
it

“I know, it's like does she really have to rub it in our faces?”

In her eyes it is the
undoing of me only
to be whispered under
Covers of darkness

It is the fatal flaw
that I must
overcome to
complete my character arc

This isn't
a choice
It is engraved
in my every heartbeat



“Do you think she’s like actually...?”

I hate it here
I say to the mirror
In the prison of
my own making

I wish I was braver
The facade is exhausting
throwaway remarks
hold immense power, to me

One day I find
a pin on the ground
It reminds me
there are others

“I mean she acts like such a lesbian”

When I smile at her
She blushes
When I hold her hand
she drops it

The week goes by
without any mention
of the most important
part of my year

The colourful celebration
of belonging
My cheeks hurt from
grinning so hard

Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself
– Leviticus 19:18

Pieces of myself
I
adjust my collar
They’ll never know

ruined
ignore it
the elephant in every room

They think
hold no weight
my eyes burn
with unshed tears

She tries
the Sinner

She claws
It shouldn’t be possible to
guilty of something
I cannot control

She thinks
change me
I let her believe
it



[REDACTED]

In her eyes [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] only
to be [REDACTED]
Covers of darkness

It is the fatal flaw
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
complete my [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
a choice
[REDACTED] engraved
[REDACTED] every heartbeat

[REDACTED]

I hate [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] the mirror
In the prison of
my own [REDACTED]

I wish [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] is exhausting
throwaway remarks
hold immense power [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] I find
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

When I smile at her
She blushes
[REDACTED] her hand
[REDACTED]

the week goes by
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] my year

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] belonging
my cheek [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] so hard

