

## Mummy

A proud, Indian woman hidden under a silk sari.  
I remember you — beautiful in my toddler eyes,  
everything I wanted to be: bangles, sari, make-up.  
But now I stand 5'6" over your 5'2"  
and suddenly you have shrunk.  
You are a little, Indian woman hidden under a silk sari  
in a world where you always come last,  
so eager to smile and to serve,  
So shocked by your "Canadian" daughter with her short skirt  
and white boy-friend,  
Mummy, we have failed each other it seems.  
I wanted you powerful, but you were always under Papa's hand,  
You wanted me selfless, a martyr like yourself,  
but I am so tired of coming last,  
I am so tired.

NOOR SAGARWALA