

5-1-2016

Alone

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Recommended Citation

Roseberry, Taylor (2016) "Alone," *Forces*: Vol. 2016 , Article 32.

Available at: <https://digitalcommons.collin.edu/forces/vol2016/iss1/32>

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ALONE

Taylor Roseberry

I want to go
to the park
Alone.
I want to wander
around the trees
beneath the leaves
Breathe in the
soil that crunches
below my feet
and do whatever I please.

But how can I when
I'm frightened of
who may lurk
Waiting to hurt a
foolish woman like me
Who dares to do
what she cares
Alone.

After all, I hear
about it on the news
Everyday a new
story of abuse
A woman kidnapped
from her car at the gas pump
A woman killed
after a breakup
A woman raped
at the park.

So, what am I
supposed to do
in light of all
this grisly news?
Do I put my life on
hold and wait for
others so I'm not
Alone?

But then I wonder
is my world view skewed?
Is what I think
the truth of things or
some hellish fantasy?
Should I just go do
what I'm scared
to do despite
the possibilities
Alone?

I want to.
God, I want to
But I fear that I'm not wrong.