

## Reason Stares

*Emily Harris Adams*

Brigham is boiling inside  
at the audacity of the prophet  
who said that God was once  
a man.

*Eliza sits and thinks of the greatness  
of it all: the potential of man.  
That men are children of God,  
and like true heirs of their Father,  
they will become  
all that He is.*

Brigham grasps desperate fingers  
around his still-new faith,  
a faith made suddenly slippery  
with doubt.

*The faith that has been her sustenance  
through the miles and marches,  
the violence and violations  
to mind and body,  
swells within her, healing the doubts  
that came riding on the heels of the mobs.*

If God was a man, then,  
but to Brigham this thought  
is almost too horrible to think,  
then man could become a God.

*If God was once a man,  
then man could become a God.  
Her smile has not faded  
when suddenly, her jaw drops  
as reason leads her to the inevitable  
conclusion.*

No, the thought makes reason stare.  
For Brigham has seen no man  
who could ever be a God.

*Truth is reason,  
Truth Eternal tells her:*

If King Follet had not died,  
if Joseph Smith had not spoken  
at King's funeral,  
Lorenzo's little couplet  
would not have come back to haunt Brigham.  
And Brigham knows this will indeed be a haunting  
wrestle with mind and soul  
to make himself believe.

*That woman can become a God too.*