

Holy Spin Room

Sadie Marie Hutchings

You want me to make it less
complicated
want me to smooth the way,
and say, that to me, the path
is easy.

That I am gay, but mostly
in the blessed sense.

But come, face it with me:
the path
is rocky,
jagged,
really it's a vertical climb
up a sheer mountain face
and people have fallen.

People are bruised.

I'm not interested in being
your example of how
to do this right.

You want me to say
"Isn't it a miracle that I am still attracted
to men?"

And it is, but not in the way you are
thinking.

And only for me.

Queer people in the church
are not a monolith.

The church is the monolith
we are trying to climb
and are too often falling from.

Sometimes we are pushed.

Forgive me, if
I am angry.

I am just trying to understand
the shape of the miracles I have
been given.

The institution, the
body,
I am to live in.

I am just taking the tangle of faith,
hope, and disappointment—
trying to spin it all
into something holy.

SADIE MARIE HUTCHINGS {sadiemariehutchings@gmail.com} (she/her) is a recent transplant to Salt Lake City from Boston, Massachusetts. Her writing seeks to blend lived experiences of chronic illness, queerness, spirituality, and a love for the natural world. She has previously published poetry in *Exponent II*. She shares both her writing and art on Instagram @bittersea.sadiemarie.