

# Humanized

by Joann Boswell



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T H E N: →	children are dying parents toiling abandon all seek refuge knowing unwelcome despised, treated less - than earlier settlers, still safer viewed as vultures arriving sparrows weary wanderers like so much snow thrown topsy-turvy to wind's mercy piling up along the base of the wall— beautiful, vulnerable, innocent	butterflies migrating : sleep, play, eat, thirst, to grow, learn, understand their world, their for global improvement as they huddle, amassing then former alliances claiming Christ. where God is a Light present in Stranger, policies are theologies embraced by the privileged who feel poorly, normally, equally with outsiders who earn generations who hugged hard work, physical field labor, here than homelands where poverty and persecution were necessary to escape, forced displacement led them limping on this foreign soil — revisionist history shows them as pulling up on boot straps, sheer solitary strength creating empires uphill barefoot without assistance and now that stingy spirit will not be by some ungrateful upstarts, but I will— give myself listening where voices are muzzled, cries stifled under impressive trumped-up combat boots marching of "America First". I will sink my white fists below the foundations pull my privileged palms, uprooting barriers to your existence children of Mother Earth— you are born as I was. by chance I am here and not there, standing resilient—climb on my back and scream
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Author bio:



Joann Renee Boswell is a teacher, mother, photographer and poet currently living in Camas, WA with her spouse and three children. Before having children, Joann taught and directed high school theatre in Washington state. Joann loves rainy days filled with coffee, books, handholding, moody music and sci-fi shows. Some places she's been published include *VoiceCatcher*, *Western Friend*, *The Martian Chronicle* and *Mothers Always Write*. Her first book of poetry is expected May 2020 through Fernwood Press. You can read more at [joannrenee.com](http://joannrenee.com).