## **Moebius**

Volume 8
Issue 1 Campus Controversy

Article 26

1-1-2010

# Different — Just Like You

Christine Parker California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo

Follow this and additional works at: http://digitalcommons.calpoly.edu/moebius

### Recommended Citation

Parker, Christine (2010) "Different — Just Like You," *Moebius*: Vol. 8: Iss. 1, Article 26. Available at: http://digitalcommons.calpoly.edu/moebius/vol8/iss1/26

This Poem is brought to you for free and open access by the College of Liberal Arts at Digital Commons @CalPoly. It has been accepted for inclusion in Moebius by an authorized administrator of Digital Commons @CalPoly. For more information, please contact <a href="mailto:mwyngard@calpoly.edu">mwyngard@calpoly.edu</a>.

Parker: Different "Just Like You

## DIFFERENT—JUST LIKE YOU

Christine Parker

It's much easier to stand in solidarity with the oppressed rather than be the oppressed.

I've always been
pro-gay marriage,
pro-gay rights,
pro-gay adoption,
pro-let's win this fight!
But it's a bit different now that I myself
am in the light.
I am bisexual.
And I am damn proud of it.
But for a while I wasn't.

Couldn't say it aloud, not with...

Pride.

Strength.

I was...

ignoring the undeniable

river of emotions,

that ran thick through my veins,

that grew waves like the oceans.

I was passionately suppressing,

this voice that's inside.

Moebius 111

that was whispering, repeating, screaming at me to stop hideing. And, just...

#### Listen.

And even though I knew,
That I really shouldn't lie,
And that my friends would support,
And would be my ally,
And I knew it wasn't "wrong,"
When it felt this right,
I'd just ask myself, why
Do I try
To deny
That I'm bi...
It's because I'm scared.
California's Proposition 8?

Florida's Proposition 2? Maine's Question 1? Arizona's Proposition 102?

#### Listen.

I had only spoken to the man
Maybe once or twice...
but my old high-school librarian's words hit me...
like a ton of books' advice.
"Never let them see you sweat."
So I didn't.
The rumors were not few,
Suddenly everyone knew,
People asked me if it's true.
And I'd say, "Yeah."
And if you have a problem...

112 CAMPUS CONTROVERSY

'cuz shit, I can't help it. I'm coded to be this way.

with my DNA

You can go ahead and take it up,

#### Parker: Different ,, Just Like You

#### Listen.

This isn't "just a phase,"
That I'm going through.
I'm not here to make all of,
Your sex fantasies come true.
Heterosexual? Homosexual?
There's exceptions to the rule.
Lindsay Lohan? Megan Fox?
I was bi before it was "cool."
I am not desperate,
Don't call me a slut.
Just make up my mind?
Excuse me, sorry... what?

I like boys and girls.
No if's, but's, or can'ts.
I care about what's in your heart,
Not what's in your pants.

#### Listen.

I am not abnormal.
I am not defective.
I am not a threat.
Or infective.
I'm not lacking,
I'm not taboo.

I'm different...

just like you. 🕲