

In this Century

Forget politics
Gender identity
Forget polarity
And bigotry.
No mother
Can help but shudder
When she hears
San Bernardino
Orlando
Dallas
Paris
Turkey
Belgium
Nice.

A mother's heart flames,
Breath catches,
Brain fires like a rocket.
Where
Is
My
Child?

Even terrorists had moms
who harbored hopes
and dreams for their kids,
that didn't include
being blown to bits on asphalt.

Those moms felt the pain
and joy of childbirth,
worried over bumps and scrapes,
wiped and kissed away salty tears,
shushed and rocked their child.

Just like me.