

AS WE WATCHED THE ARK

Angelisse Perez POETRY

Angelisse Perez is a queer, nonbinary latiné writer and scholar. They are often inspired by mythological and religious themes in their work. Their experience as an LGBTQIA+ religious individual growing up in America contributes to their topics of religious trauma, exclusion, and acceptance.

Each drop fell, bringing with it a taunt over our own depravity.

It shouts, "Liar, Schemer, Thief, Murderer, Adulterer, Covetous - Human?"

Well, sir, in your flawless plan, there lies all but one fatal cavity.

Did you not tell us to lie? Plot our schemes? Plant that which remains to be stolen?

Why, then, are we trudging through puddles of wrath?

And what great plan lies here, in the aftermath?
Humans are, as humans always have been,
Weak, and held prostrate to sin.

Do you think some water will wash it all away,
And make you forget the mistake you so
wrongfully made?

You cannot go around boasting free will one day,
And then smite down your children for feeling oh
so betrayed.

You shouldn't create life with brains, and hearts,
and souls that reach beyond,
Then destroy them for deciding that with their life
they will abscond.
For what good does a man free will,
When one wrong choice could feign them ill?

But I know one mustn't argue with your all-
knowing plan.
For I know you know far more than I.
But as I watch the water reach the tips of my
hands,
I wonder if I truly have to die.