

## "Hold"

"Promise me  
You will never give up  
You will never lose hope  
No matter what happens  
You will never let go  
Hold, always hold."

That's what you tell me  
even as the cancer flows  
through your blood  
and through your bones  
a silent serpent  
slithering, searching  
intent on destroying  
the Mother I know...  
...you scream no  
& you Hold.

You hold onto hope  
& you tell me to do the same  
if you will, then I will  
together always we will  
we will Hold  
we will hold onto this hope  
we are warriors I know.

Michael B

North Carolina

Lovingly you tell me  
saying, "I am so proud of you."  
& when you said we will make it through  
please know I never doubted you  
& I know that nothing  
can steal the hope out of you  
for I know  
that God is smiling down on you  
so I will wear this bravery  
through my tears  
& through my fears  
as a shining crown for you.

& I will Hold  
I will hold onto hope  
never letting it go  
I promise  
no matter what  
I will hold  
for hope, is the bravest part of our souls.

# Thank You FOR READING!

Below are some questions to reflect on from this piece. Feel free to also use one as a conversation starter with a fellow reader, or even a loved one on the outside!

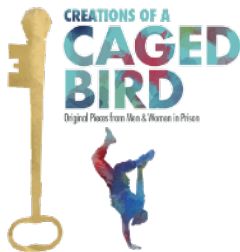
***Do you know friends or family members who have displayed brave hearts in powerful, and sometimes overlooked ways-- maybe facing down illness, caring for others, or holding on to hope when life presents them with challenges?***

***What would you like to say to them in a poem or a letter?***

We'd love to hear what you thought of the piece, or if you've had any meaningful conversations as a result. Or perhaps you'd like to share an expression of your own (visual art or creative writing). You are always welcome to write to us at Shining Light at P.O. Box 267, Annville, PA 17003.

*\*Note: We will not be able to provide a response to your letter or receipt of your submission, but know that we value your feedback and contributions and will take them seriously.*

## OTHER SHINING LIGHT COURSES ON EDOVO YOU MAY WANT TO CHECK OUT:



(Volume 1 & 2)



(Issues as far back as Sept '21!)



spoken word  
LAB



playwriting  
LAB



***For these courses, you have the opportunity to receive a certificate directly from Shining Light if you send in a written copy of your work to the address above.***