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**ASHLEIGH WALSH**

**A Hand From a Mother**

Sweet perfection to the eye  
but each man can see the pain inside.  
My mother's love will always be  
casting  
down on pure white snow,  
while people leave their minds to  
roam.

Look away and you may miss  
a kiss from God onto your lips.  
A hand that soothed and held me  
tight  
every hour of every night.  
Many say a child must grow  
to appreciate what a mother knows.  
I thank the Lord each and every day  
I have a mother who was strong  
enough to stay.  
To teach me things that she has  
learned  
and help me through life's twists and  
turns.

*Ashleigh Walsh is the daughter of Irish immigrant parents, Carole and John, and sister to Jason. She wrote this poem for her mother's 50th birthday.*