

fathers' rights groups on custody and access who knows where these threats will go. One point is made very clear by this political exercise: women's equality rights cannot be taken for granted as we enter the next millennium.

The author wishes to acknowledge the work of many women who have worked hard with NAWL on the issue of women's rights in the Divorce Act, particularly, Carole Curtis, Penni Mitchell, Michele Landsberg, and Louise Shaughnessy, whose work forms the basis of this article.

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¹Bill C-41, passed May 1997.

²This is firsthand experience. NAWL wrote several letters to the *Ottawa Citizen* and to the *National Post* and to the *Globe and Mail* that were not published. Other women's groups reported to NAWL that they had also written but had not been published.

³See also the website of the Clearinghouse on Family Violence at Health Canada which provides statistics on both women and children which substantiate this claim: <http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/hppb/familyviolence/index.html>

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CLARE BRAUX

Levitation

A headlong wind swerves broadside,
tumbles the fronds and shivers
the bug screen.

I hear the refrigerator's agonizing hum, and
him
who rustles his paper, turning the pages one
by one.
I hear his smoke-filled breath.

I sit eyes glued to a page in a book
about Anaïs, who speaks: "Poetry is a way
to learn levitation."

The rain follows, twists the palm tree
disheveled. Tears succumb,
glancing off its cut-up bark.

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