

2005

As I spoke the words, I felt them touch and give life to a new reality within me ... (Audre Lorde)

Emily C. Ryan
St. John Fisher College

[How has open access to Fisher Digital Publications benefited you?](#)

Follow this and additional works at: <http://fisherpub.sjfc.edu/angle>

 Part of the [Creative Writing Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Ryan, Emily C. (2005) "As I spoke the words, I felt them touch and give life to a new reality within me... (Audre Lorde)," *The Angle*: Vol. 2005: Iss. 4, Article 9.
Available at: <http://fisherpub.sjfc.edu/angle/vol2005/iss4/9>

This document is posted at <http://fisherpub.sjfc.edu/angle/vol2005/iss4/9> and is brought to you for free and open access by Fisher Digital Publications at St. John Fisher College. For more information, please contact fisherpub@sjfc.edu.

As I spoke the words, I felt them touch and give life to a new reality within
me ... (Audre Lorde)

Cover Page Footnote

Appeared in the issue: Volume 5, Issue 4, 2005.

EMILY RYAN

***“AS I SPOKE THE WORDS, I FELT THEM TOUCH AND
GIVE LIFE TO A NEW REALITY WITHIN ME . . .”
AUDRE LORDE***

we sat tired on the tired couch
talking and not talking
staring at the clock numbers
changing
each slowly until all too fast 4 am came
and swimming in fatigue,
beer cans, stale cheese doodles,
I tottered to the front door

you asked if I was going
to brave the snow that fell
around the warmth of your house,
of your sheets, of your body,
and although I shuddered
at the door, cracked open and cold,
I told you I should leave

I knew you wanted me to stay

before I left, you told me
that night,
you had a good time just talking
it was something your eyes had
already told me, something they had
lit inside me;
an orange shining through
to the tips of my fingers

driving home, dazed
I thought about going back to you,
and I thought about Audre,
being consumed by the orange
heat of flesh, the burning, the aching,
the orange heat
that found home inside where once
was frozen and dark

and I thought about holding you
that night, not in my arms
but in my voice and the breath
of my non-voice, and it was okay
that I left with only the orange
light between us, the light
you put inside of me -
it would bring me back.