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Who I am

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Who I am
by Andrea C. Curtade

My name is
Andrea
(An
 D-r ay
 Ah)
Curtade
(Curr
 Tah
 De)

Do not stray from this pronunciation
Not because I feel entitled,
Simply because my mother
wanted it that way.

She wanted the use of the entire tongue
to command the room with strength.
To acknowledge her daughter's heritage
and give versatility to her voice.

Do not stray from this pronunciation
it is the struggle of what my parents endured
and it is what they accomplished.
It is who I am.