**What They Did Yesterday Afternoon**

by Warsan Shire

they set my aunts house on fire
i cried the way women on tv do
folding at the middle
like a five pound note.
i called the boy who use to love me
tried to ‘okay’ my voice
i said hello *he said warsan, what’s wrong, what’s happened?*
i’ve been praying,
and these are what my prayers look like; *dear god
i come from two countries
one is thirsty
the other is on fire
both need water.*
later that night
i held an atlas in my lap
ran my fingers across the whole world
and whispered
where does it hurt?

it answered *everywhere
everywhere
everywhere.*