

Womb

Victoria Perrie

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[*Davis and Roy v His Majesty the King, 2023 SCBC VLC-S-S-231251*](#)[1]

I breathe in deep through my stomach and feel the soft padded walls around me
holding me tight, warm and safe
I belong here - even with my eyes still shut

Mother sings vibrations echoing around my body, cocooning me tighter with love
makes me laugh and stretch out in this little womb room just for me
I'm lucky this house was able to host – not unknowingly ripped out while her eyes were forced
closed

I sink into her deep pink flesh
and slide my soft keratin nails across the inner lining of her uterus
I trace the design of the name she has chosen for me - Cedar

Etchings in the plasma will deliver me sacred and blessed
This womb tells me stories of my rights on the outside
Whispers risks of reversing [*R v Morgentaler, 1 SCR 30*](#)[2]

I know from here I'll need the ancestors
Twist and cross my webbed fingers like braided sweetgrass promising to protect me
Can't I stay with you a little while more?

I emerge onto a bed of sage, tasting crisp ocean air in the back of my throat
Born with a fist full of tobacco
I am ready

[1] Class action lawsuit presently awaiting certification in BC at the time this poem was written which seeks remedy for Indigenous womb holders who underwent forced and coerced sterilizations and abortions at the hands of provincial medical officials. See also: [*May Sarah Cardinal v Alberta*, 2025 ABKB 270](#).

[2] Supreme Court of Canada decision declaring criminalization of abortion to be contrary to section 7 of the [*Charter of Rights and Freedoms*](#) – the right to life, liberty, and security of the person.

Biography

Victoria Perrie is a 2S Métis-Cree artist, educator, and lawyer practicing in Nunavut and Manitoba. She holds a Bachelor of Arts and Juris Doctor degrees, rooted in traditional teachings from Elders across Turtle Island, and is currently pursuing an LLM at Osgoode Hall. Victoria has published on access to justice, Indigenous rights, and systemic inequities, both in Canada and internationally. She serves as a Director at the Manitoba Association of Playwrights, and Vice President for the Indigenous Bar Association. Passionate about community service, she bridges the worlds of law, art, and education to inspire transformative change.
