

VV

Hold strong, dear woman,
It's just another sheet to change,
Another mistake unneeded,
Another situation unwanted.

Sometimes nature prevents virtue—
Sometimes nurture calls for virtue.

Hope, Will, Faith, and a deep breath,
(Love)
Help make a gentle woman discerning and whole—
Help perfect her honor, her good name.
Hold strong, dear woman—hold
Strong like a woman can be.

—*Rachel L. Eblin-Dodds*

The Sponge

The sponge
squelched and squeezed,
devoid,
shrunken,
no longer swollen;
but finally on its way
to becoming whole.

—*Rachel L. Eblin-Dodds*