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# Journal of Critical Scholarship on Higher Education and Student Affairs

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Volume 3

Issue 3 *Resilience, Resistance, & Reclamation:  
Changing the Narrative of Higher Education*

Article 11

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October 2018

## Of Florence and Honea Path

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### Recommended Citation

Curtis, S. (2018). Of Florence and honea path. *Journal of Critical Scholarship on Higher Education and Student Affairs*, 3(3), 48-49.

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# Of Florence and Honea Path



**Sydney Curtis**  
*University of Chicago*

I think about the Gullah people  
Unlearning a loaded canon  
Daughters of the Dust  
Ancestors from the depths  
of the Lowlands  
Resilient as the seashore with clothes of white foam

My pride has been mis-placed into things  
That shine me up  
Doves  
To shake off the sand from a hundred and seventy-five mile  
stretch of road  
And indigo  
To heal the scars of being

It is a reason to take lovers  
From far away places  
Finding freedom on the shores of glitz  
It is the reason for the world's infatuation  
With forty-four  
Whose redness is unriden  
by revolt  
And the stench of those ships

While the night sky  
for hours  
hides beyond the clouds  
Holding up the moon  
and every story she knows  
Abandoned and wrapped in same-colored flags  
She persists  
To beckon with tidesong  
The steadfast light of her truth burns through

I am already home.  
I, too, am this land.  
I am  
descended of miracles.

*Suggested Citation:*

Curtis, S. (2018). Of Florence and Honea Path. *The Journal of Critical Scholarship on Higher Education and Student Affairs*, 3(3), 48-49.