

Teaching Note: This poem is to accompany the lesson plan that has been closely adapted from the accompanying lesson plan from http://digitalis.nwp.org/sites/default/files/files/428/Raised_By_lesson.pdf

This poem is an excellent way to build community with students. The teacher is encouraged to create his/her own "Raised by" poem to model for students.

**Raised by Women
Kelly Norman Ellis**

Link: <http://coalblackvoices.com/poets/kelly/index.html>

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| I was raised by Chitterling eating Vegetarian cooking Cornbread so good you want to lay down and die baking "Go on baby, get yo'self a plate" Kind of Women. | 5 |
| Some thick haired Angela Davis afro styling "Girl, lay back and let me scratch yo head" Sorta Women. | 10 |
| Some big legged High yellow, mocha brown Hip shaking Miniskirt wearing Hip huggers hugging Daring debutantes Groovin "I know I look good" Type of Women. | 15 20 |
| Some tea sipping White glove wearing | |

Got married too soon
Divorced
in just the nick of time 25
"Better say yes ma'am to me"
Type of sisters.

Some fingerpopping
Boogaloo dancing
Say it loud 30
I'm black and I'm proud
James Brown listening
"Go on girl shake that thing"
Kind of Sisters.

Some face slapping 35
Hands on hips
"Don't mess with me,
Pack your bags and
get the hell out of my house"
Sorta women 40

Some PhD toten
Poetry writing
Portrait painting
"I'll see you in court"
World traveling 45
Stand back, I'm creating
Type of queens

I was raised by women