

## **Isabella Colalillo Katz**

### **Julie Payette made it to the stars**

Julie Payette made it to the stars  
after they said we were not good enough  
after they said we were not smart enough  
after they said we were not strong enough  
after they chained us to cook and clean  
for a thousand years  
after they denied us education  
after they said we were second class  
after making us chattel  
after making us bear their children  
and forcing us to raise them alone  
after leaving us poor and defenseless  
after making us doubt our own worth  
after enslaving our souls  
and trampling our spirit  
after denying us gender equity  
and deserved promotions  
after creating glass ceilings  
after denying us the vote  
after fighting against the ERA  
after making into lies  
our truths about gender exploitation  
after treating us like objects  
and selling our bodies for pleasure and profit  
after destroying our power to heal  
and burning our bodies and writings

*Isabella Colalillo Katz*

after all these injustices  
after a million billion tribulations  
after uncountable lists of offences  
womanspirit is soaring to the stars  
our daughters are finally tasting freedom  
let us free them further  
we who are their mothers, aunts,  
sisters and grandmothers,  
their fathers, brothers, lovers and husbands  
let us work to set each other free  
let women grow into whatever shape and dreams  
let Julie Payette fly to the stars  
let our daughters dare and dream  
and fly and fly and fly.