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## MARILÓ NÚÑEZ

### Mother ...

There are times when I take for granted  
the power of your love.

You sit on the sidelines  
always ready with the glass of water,  
the moist towel on my forehead and  
cool hand on my arm.

I'm running without looking back,  
without seeing your beautiful face  
always right there beside mine.

Sometimes, I cry for you  
I am a selfish child  
again wanting mama to be there  
at night beside me,  
her cushiony warmth  
cradling my fears with  
determination.

Sometimes, I scream  
I am angry at the world,  
too many battles to fight  
too many victories to win.  
I want to give up.

Your eyes sparkle with  
vehement anger back.  
No! you will not fall.  
Run until you can't run  
anymore. Then I will run  
for you, never say never again!

Sometimes, I smile  
you are my mother,  
nothing can make me want  
to run faster and with greater skill.  
I will finish at the finish line number one  
because you are my mother.

*Mariló Núñez was born in Chile, but grew up in Toronto. She has the wealth of two beautiful countries to inspire her writing as well as her acting.*