

**AND SO, I'VE DECIDED THAT I AM NOT TOO MUCH**

I AM NOT the elephant in the room,  
Pushing out my ELEPHANT EARS,  
More like the plant when I'm here,  
I sit in the corner. I speak when I'm spoken to and move when I am called to the light.  
And so, I've decided that I am NOT TOO BIG.

I AM NOT a barge,  
Foghorns DO NOT BLOW from my mouth,  
I DO NOT CUT through waves of conversation,  
SPRAYing salted SPIT into the faces of those who cover their ears and wrinkle their noses as I  
CRASH against them,  
And so, I've decided that I AM NOT TOO LOUD.

I AM NOT a black hole,  
I DO NOT CONSUME all that there is around me,  
Leaving only DARKNESS and dust behind.  
I DO NOT make a big BANG every time I open the door to our apartment,  
And I AM NOT THE VACUUM OF SPACE,  
And so, I've decided that I AM ALLOWED TO TAKE UP S P A C E  
here, too.

This is NOT A GHOST that haunts these halls  
I am NOT A SPECTER  
Or Deja vu,  
NOT THE MEMORY that you swore was there  
But knew THAT COULD NOT BE true.

I AM A PERSON, and I AM REAL, and I FEEL,  
And so, I FEEL that I HAVE A RIGHT to tell you.  
That **I AM ALLOWED TO EXIST HERE, TOO.**