

# BROKEN

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“Sticks and stones may break my bones,  
But names will never hurt me.”  
What a lie used to deny  
the lasting pain inside me.  
The whispers, statements,  
and the shouts  
Break me from the inside out.  
Bones can heal in just eight weeks  
But all those names play on repeat.  
Growing louder year by year,  
those names become all I can hear.  
My wounded heart by arrows slain  
Just from being called that name.