# \*\*This poem contains mentions of abusive behaviour\*\*

# 'What Loving Me Takes' by Reign Marsh

You don't understand.

You don't understand like I do.

They love me and I love them.

And this is just what love is.

We all have to make sacrifices.

I don't see what the problem is.

And yes, sometimes he might say a few things, like meet me halfway, give all, but do not meet me right here.

And don't you dare disappear.

Take me for granted. Your lungs will be at stake. Take my words as gospel, for I'm the one who will forever all this quarrel as my arms like gently wrapped around your neck.

Taking all that's left.

Meet me halfway to be met by my smile, conniving and white, no dents. Insight. When I take what she wants, you may doubt. Yet rightfully mine.

Ellipse ceased to commit your heart to speak. Ice look in mind to think. But it's fine, because you give all your kindness and love to me, and I thank you for it.

Thank you for meeting me and my loving hands.

I promise I'll grasp all that you're meant to.

Just what loving me takes.

That's what it takes.

## Audio recording

This poem contains mentions of abusive behaviour.

Listen to the [audio recording of 'What loving me takes'](https://www.newman.ac.uk/wp-content/uploads/sites/10/2024/03/What-loving-me-takes-Poetry-Submission.mp4)