

**NATIONAL  
ENDOWMENT** for the **ARTS**

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**MUSICAL THEATER  
SONGWRITING CHALLENGE**

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE AMERICAN THEATRE WING.  
Collaborators are Disney Theatrical Productions and  
Samuel French, Inc., a Concord Theatricals company.

# Lyrics for *Hanging on Life*

By Breezy Love

2019 Musical Theater Songwriting Challenge  
Winner

Dreamt I ran blindfolded down the block.  
Uncovered my eyes and suddenly I was lost.  
I sat on the curb, wondered if scars carry charm.  
Wrote Joni's words with a Sharpie on my forearm.

And what do you say to that, but only silence answers back.  
They say Girl just breathe, force a smile as you bleed.

I'm hanging on life like it's some kind of rope,  
And I'm whipped in the wind, beaten and thrown.  
And one day I'm gonna take back my control,  
But I'm hanging on life, how can I, how can I, let go?

Feeling like a freckle on the face of a stranger's child.  
I envy the birds 'cause they don't have to fight to fly wild.  
I'll feed my ambition with all the light it craves.  
But something's gotta give, something more than it takes.

The devil let's out a laugh when only silence answers back.  
I can't bear to breathe, I can't smile as I bleed.

I'm hanging on life like it's some kind of rope,  
And I'm whipped in the wind, beaten and thrown.  
And one day I'm gonna take back my control,  
But I'm hanging on life.  
How can I? How can I . . .

I'm reaching for something--- getting handfuls and handfuls of air,  
I'm told where to go but never how to get there.  
I'm reaching for something--- getting handfuls and handfuls of air.  
Don't know where to go, or how to get there – if I get there...

I'll hang on to life like it's some kind of rope,  
If I'm whipped in the wind, beaten or thrown.  
One day I'm gonna take back my control  
but I'm hanging on life, for today, for today, for today.