

Ohio Revised Code 2907.02

the Lord judges swiftly not,
spares unfailingly
loves unconditionally

the Lord, in his infinite mercy,
tells me to pardon you
tells me to love you
even though i can't
won't
shouldn't

the world of men will understand me for holding my grudges
and if not them, then the world of women will

but still, the Lord looms
urging me to absolve you
the way He has absolved you
the way the rest of my life absolved you
when they picked who to believe

the Lord will not turn his back on me
but He will not welcome me either
not until i follow His lead
and forgive

—*Ruksana Kabealo*