A hand enveloped in teeth marks. Yet, this hand does not cease to feed, no matter how swollen nor scarred nor bruised it gets...

It is, of course, a hand of a mother and the teeth marks belong to her beloved child. A child can do so much to their mother, and she will continue to forgive. She will continue to love. And she will continue to care. That is how deep the mercy of a mother goes.

Heaven lies beneath her feet; the same feet that walk endlessly from one end of the earth to the other, so that her child will never need to.

That is how deep the mercy of a mother goes.

Despite putting her body through 280 days of unimaginable agony, she is filled with a rush of undeniable love seeing her baby for the first time. There is not a single shred of bitterness or loathing inside her, even though this puny being has caused her suffering before even taking its first breath.

That is how deep the mercy of a mother goes.

How can our mothers love us so dearly when we have brought them pain before even entering this world?

"Your Lord has decreed that you worship none but Him and that you be kind to parents. Whether one or both of them attain old age in your life, **say not to them a word of contempt, nor repel them**, but address them in terms of honor. And out of kindness, lower to them the wing of humility and say, "My Lord! Bestow on them Your Mercy even as they cherished me in childhood," [Noble Quran 17:23-24]. Yet, there are times we do say words of contempt to them and we do repel them. There are times we treat our parents as our servants instead of our saviors.

Yet, they continue to put roofs over our heads, clothes on our backs, and food on our plates. That is how deep the mercy of a mother goes.

Even though the bite marks, scratches, and bruises begin to fade, and we become older and wiser, her hand will never be completely unscathed.

A child will never cease to replace one bite mark for another with their lies, disobedience, and disrespect, no matter how much they grow, and how put-together they become.

Yet, the mother will never cease to have love for her child. The mother will never cease to provide for her child. The mother will never cease to aid her child. The mother will never cease to forgive her child. And a mother will never cease to have mercy on her child. A mother's mercy is ceaseless. That is how deep the mercy of a mother goes.

"Be kind to your parents..." [4\*:36].