

Refusal to use

you refuse to accept my choice

the pronouns i allowed you to use

the pronouns i chose, i like to be referred to

use den for me

it is the Swedish it

but you say i can't cause it sounds

wrong

grammar won't allow it

i thought about telling you to fuck off

i don't care about grammar, i care for myself

i like den to be used for me

it is my choice not yours

my choice to use a pronoun you deem wrong to use

you think sounds wrong

i will never tell you this cause

i am afraid of your reaction, afraid of people's reaction

what i might have to face

i shouldn't, i shouldn't be afraid

i should be allowed to stand up for myself

be brave enough to stand up for myself

when i tried to explain den to you

what it means to me, how i feel about den

your reaction scared me

"It sounds wrong to use den for a person"

saying this sounds wrong to me

so, tell me why

Why can't you accept my choice?

Why can't you try and support me?

i stood down, gave in to avoid conflict, discussion

let you hurt me

i don't want to upset you, anger you

you are the lecturer; you will judge me at the end

but that's what i do

stand down, avoid battle, stop fighting

i am scared

to cause trouble, to be hurt

but i let it happen

maybe to appease you

maybe to avoid getting hurt by you even more

it shouldn't be like that

i should be able to be me

Why can't I?