

**I Got Flowers Today  
(Dedicated to Battered Women)**



**I got flowers today!  
It wasn't my birthday or any other special day.  
We had our first argument last night;  
And he said a lot of cruel things that really hurt;  
I know that he is sorry and didn't mean to say the things he said;  
Because he sent me flowers today.**

**I got flowers today.  
It wasn't our anniversary or any other special day.  
Last night, he threw me into a wall and started to choke me.  
It seemed like a nightmare.  
I couldn't believe that it was real.  
I woke up this morning sore and bruised all over.  
I know he must be sorry.  
Because he sent me flowers today.**

**I got flowers today!  
It wasn't our anniversary or any other special day;  
Last night he threw me into a wall and then started choking me;  
It seemed unreal, a nightmare, but you wake up from nightmares;  
And I woke up this morning sore and bruised all over—but I know he is sorry;  
Because he sent me flowers today.**

**I got flowers today!  
And it wasn't Valentines Day or any other special day;  
Last night he beat me and threatened to kill me;  
Make-up and long sleeves didn't hide the cuts and bruises this time;  
I couldn't go to work today because I didn't want anyone to know—but I know  
he's sorry;  
Because he sent me flowers today.**

**I got flowers today!  
And it wasn't Mother's Day or any other special day;  
Last night he beat me again, and it was worse than all of the other times;  
If I leave him, what will I do? How will I take care of the kids? What about  
money?  
I'm afraid of him, but I'm too scared and dependent to leave him! But he  
must be sorry;  
Because he sent me flowers today.**

**I got flowers today....  
Today was a special day—it was the day of my funeral;  
Last night he killed me;  
If only I would have gathered the courage and strength to leave him;  
I could have received help from the Women's Shelter, but I didn't ask for  
their help;  
So I got flowers today—for the last time.**

**By Paulette Kelly**

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