THE SHEAF: LITERARY & ART MAGAZINE FALL 2023

Union College of Union County, NJ THIS MAGAZINE CONTAINS ALL ORIGINAL WORKS OF UCNJ STUDENTS. THE BEST WORKS OF ALL THE STUDENTS WHO PARTICIPATED WERE CHOSEN.

ONTRIBUTORS

EDITORIAL BOARD

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF LAURA SCHUBERT DESIGNER: LAURA SCHUBERT PHOTOGRAPHER: LAURA SCHUBERT STAFF: ANGEL ZAMORRA, BIANCA MURRAY, EDIMARY REYES, LAVENDER OTIENO ADVISOR: DR. SOPHIA MITRA

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS: KEVAN PIDGEON-HAMMOCK, STUDENT SERVICES GENERALIST COLLEGE LIFE

DR. MELISSA SANDE, ASSISTANT VICE PRESIDENT OF AA & DEAN OF HUMANITIES

MS. SARALIA BONTEMPO CREATIVE SERVICES MANAGER



FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE SHEAF, CONTACT DR. SOPHIA MITRA AT MITRA (@UCC.EDU OFFICE: W-113 CRANFORD CAMPUS



UCNJ DOES NOT DISCRIMINATE AND PROHIBITS DISCRIMINATION, AS REQUIRED BY STATE AND/OR FEDERAL LAW, IN ALL PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES, INCLUDING EMPLOYMENT AND ACCESS TO ITS CAREER AND TECHNICAL PROGRAMS. FFICE OF COLLEGE LIFE DISCLAIMER: THE SHEAF EDITORS RESERVE THE RIGHT TO EDIT SUBMITTED MATERIAL TO THE NEEDS OF THE PUBLICATION.

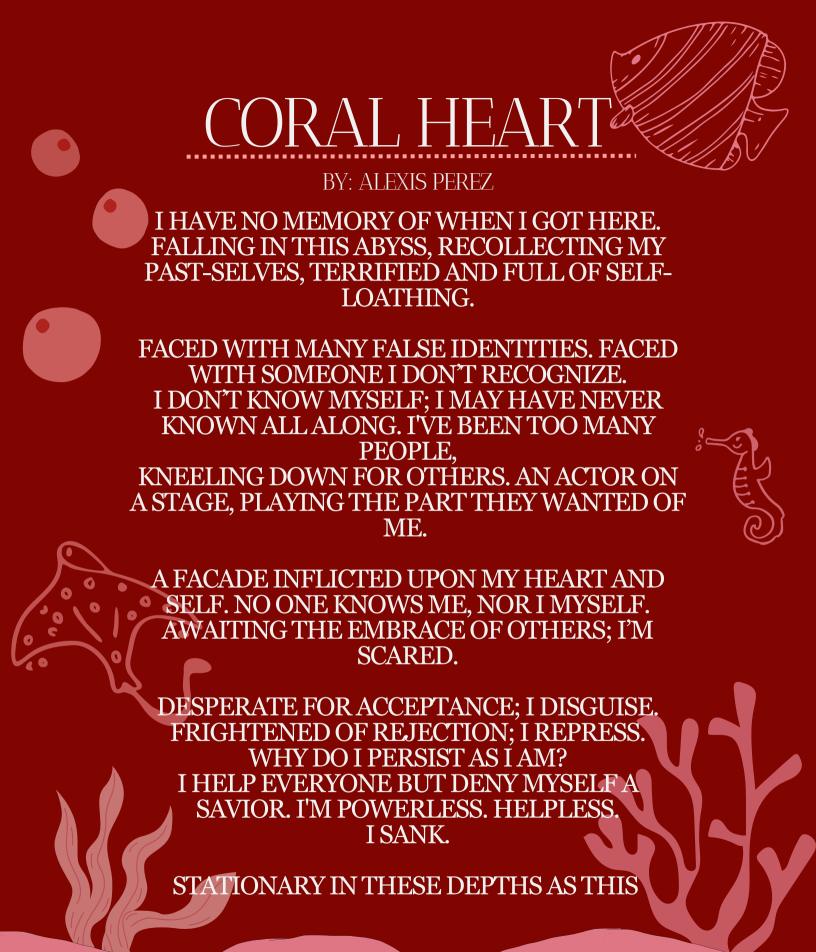
CON	Γ	ENTS
DESTINY FAIRLEY		FRONT COVER
		RED
LASHONDA SMITH	3	LOVE
ALEXIS PEREZ	4	CORAL HEART
	6	BLUE
REBECCA MARTINEZ	7	GIVE ME A PLOT
PHOENIX ORTIZ	8	UNTITLED
LINDSAY HARPER	9	RUNNING
IRVIN ALEXANDER JOSEPH	10	UNTITLED
CARYN ALBELO	11	GROWING UP
MIRANDA ROSE ROSSI	13	UNTITLED
PHOENIX ORTIZ	14	ORANGE
LAUREN E. MCGOVERN	15	OURBOROS
LAURA SCHUBERT	16	RUNNING ZOMBIE
		<u>ARTIST SPOTLIGHT</u>
MARIA ROBLES		
REBECCA MARTINEZ		
ALEXIS PEREZ		
EDIMARY REYES		
ANGEL ZAMORRA		
		GREEN DLOODGHOT MOON
		BLOODSHOT MOON
JADE DESIREE NELSON		
MANPREET KAUR		PURPLE
		YOU DON'T GET TO CHOOSE YOUR DAUGHTER
		GENUINELY INDIGENOUS
DESTINY FAIRLEY		





LOVE WAS PATIENT LOVE WAS KIND HI, MY NAME IS LOVE I AM DIVINE SEE I RESONATE IN DIFFERENT SPACES SHOULD HAVE LISTEN WHEN I WARNED ANOTHER MAN IS WILLING READY AND ABLE TO TAKE YOUR PLACE. NOW YOU'RE BITTER **BECAUSE YOU JUST CAN'T UNDERSTAND** WHY I WON'T JUST, GIVE YOU ANOTHER CHANCE. NO... IT'S NOT THAT I WANT YOU TO SUFFER IT'S JUST IN THIS SPACE, YOUR TIME IS UP WITH ME LOVE FOUND LOVE WITH ANOTHER.

THE SHEAF FALL 2023



ABYSS SURROUNDS ME. I'M LOST WITHIN MYSELF. I'VE BEEN FROZEN HERE, DEVOID OF LIGHT, TRAPPED, PERPETUALLY DROWNING.

I SEE A FAINT GLOW. A PEARL. TRANSLUCENT AND CORAL TONED. A FAMILIAR HOPE AND WARMTH RESIDE WITHIN THE PEARL.

AS I'M HOLDING IT, I SEE A CRACK FORM, THE CORAL LIGHT BLEEDING ONTO ME. SEEPING INSIDE ME. FLASHES OF MY DESIRES, HOPES, AND DREAMS FLICKER IN MY EYES. I FORGE A NEW SELF, FRIGHTENED BUT READY. I'M STILL TETHERED TO THIS DARKNESS, BUT I GET STRONGER WITH EVERY STROKE AS I SWIM UPWARDS.

DON'T KNOW WHEN I'LL REACH THE SURFACE, OR IF I EVER WILL.

INO LONGER DWELL IN THE ABYSS.



GIVE ME A PLOT BY: REBECCA MARTINEZ

I ALWAYS TRIED TO PIECE TOGETHER THE STORY OF MY FUTURE BU **EVERYATTE** ENDED IN PI BLACK WITH ENDING CREDITS. CLOSED RED CURTAINS. LOCKED DOORS **EMPTY SEATS NO TICKETS** SOLD... I'VE ALWAYS BEEN LEFT WITH WONDERS OF: WHO WOULD BE IN THE CAST?

WHERE COULD IT **ALL TAKE** PLACE... WHAT COULI THE SOUNDTRACK BE. BUT THE PITCH-**BLACK SCREEN CONTINUED TO** STARE RIGHT BACK AT ME WIDE AND BIG A STORY ABOUT THE EUTURE IS MEANT TO BE FULFILLING THIS WAS JUST A TITLE WITH MY NAME **BUT NO MOVIE**

BY: PHOENIX ORTIZ



RUNNING <u>BY: LINDSAY HARP</u>ER

RUNNING. THROUGH DARK NIGHTS, AND LIGHTENED DAYS. THROUGH WINDY FIELDS, AND SILENT FORESTS. IN THE EXTREME COLD, AND BLISTERING WARMTH. RUNNING AWAY WAS NEVER CRUEL. IT COULD BECOME A NEED.

IN DREAMS AND REALITY A CONSTANT NEED, AN ITCH TO SCRATCH. FREUD ONCE THOUGHT OF DREAMS AS, WISH FULFILLMENT AM I RUNNING AWAY FROM SOMETHING?

ARE THERE PROBLEMS ON MY MIND? STRESS FROM A NEW THING IN MY LIFE. A BREATH LOSING, CHOKING, COLD SWEAT INDUCING PROBLEM. A NEW FEAR, A NEW IDEA OF PERFECTION? RUNNING.

THROUGH THESE DARK LONELY NIGHTS. NO ONE IN SIGHT, AND THOUGHTS FILL MY MIND. THROUGH THE FOREST, A MYRIAD OF COLORS. PEACEFUL WITH ANIMALS MAKING PECULIAR NOISES. SO WHY AM I RUNNING?

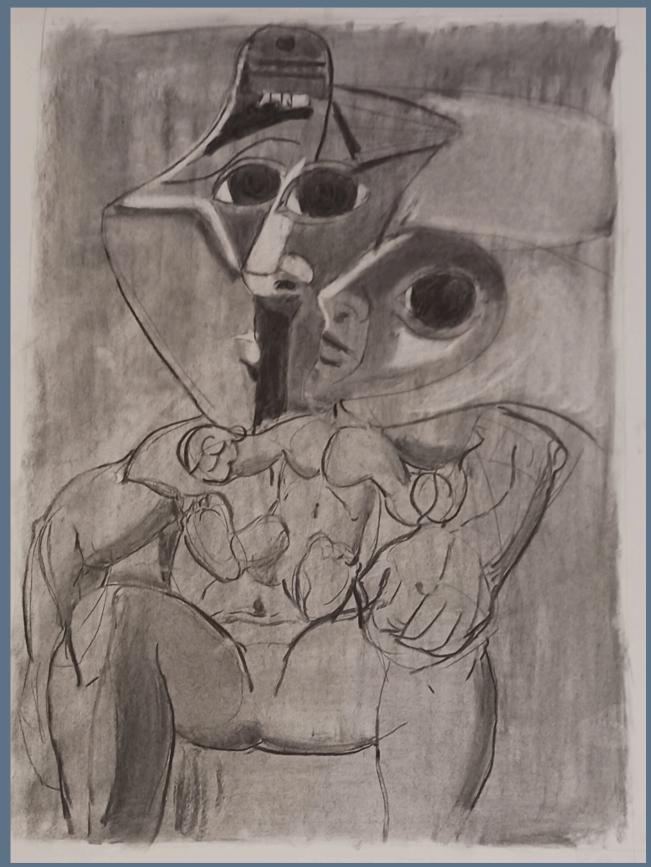
THROUGH THESE SUN SHINING LIGHTENED DAYS. THE SUN SHINING SO BRIGHT, I START TO LOSE EYESIGHT. THROUGH THE WIND WHIPPING FIELDS,

FILLED WITH YELLOWING WHEAT.

PEACEFUL WITH THE SOUND OF THE STRAW RUSTLING, THE BARN OWLS IN THE DISTANCE WHO-ING, CRICKETS CHIRPING, THE SOUND OF NIGHT SLOWLY CREEPING IN. SO WHY AM I RUNNING?

IT'S HUMID, BUT IT'S BALTIC. THERE IS NO IN-BETWEEN, AND THE WEATHER IS ALWAYS CHANGING. WHY AM I RUNNING? WHY AM I RUNNING? PEACEFUL THINGS DON'T STOP ME. THOUGH REST IS WHAT I NEED. TIRED OF EVERYTHING, FROM THIS RUNNING AND OF LIFE.

TRIED SO MUCH THAT SOMEHOW, I STOPPED RUNNING. THOUGH NOW I AM STUCK IN A RUT WITH NO WAY OUT.



BY: IRVIN ALEXANDER JOSEPH



PEOPLE TALK ABOUT HOW GOOD IT FEELS TO GROW UP, TO FINALLY BECOME YOUR OWN PERSON AND DO THINGS YOU COULDN'T DO.

I FEEL TRAPPED I FEEL LIKE I GREW UP AND ONCE I LEFT THE BUBBLE I WAS IN, I WAS HIT WITH ALL THESE EMOTIONS.

ALL THESE EMOTIONS THAT MADE ME REALIZE TO MY FATHER FIGURE, I'M NOT ENOUGH.

I AM A DAUGHTER WHO STILL NEEDS TO MATURE, WHO DOESN'T DO ANYTHING ON HER OWN.

I AM THE DAUGHTER OF A NARCISSIST.

AT NIGHT I GO TO SLEEP NOT EVEN KNOWING WHOSE DAUGHTER I AM ANYMORE.

EMOTIONAL SUPPORT, EMOTIONAL BALANCE THAT I NEVER RECEIVED FROM A MAN.

INVALIDATED FEELINGS, NOT ALLOWED TO CRY OR SHOW EMOTION BECAUSE I'M NOT THE VICTIM EMOTIONLESS, WALLS BEING BUILT AROUND MY HEART BECAUSE TO ME I'M GREAT BUT TO HIM, MY BLOOD, I AM NOTHING.

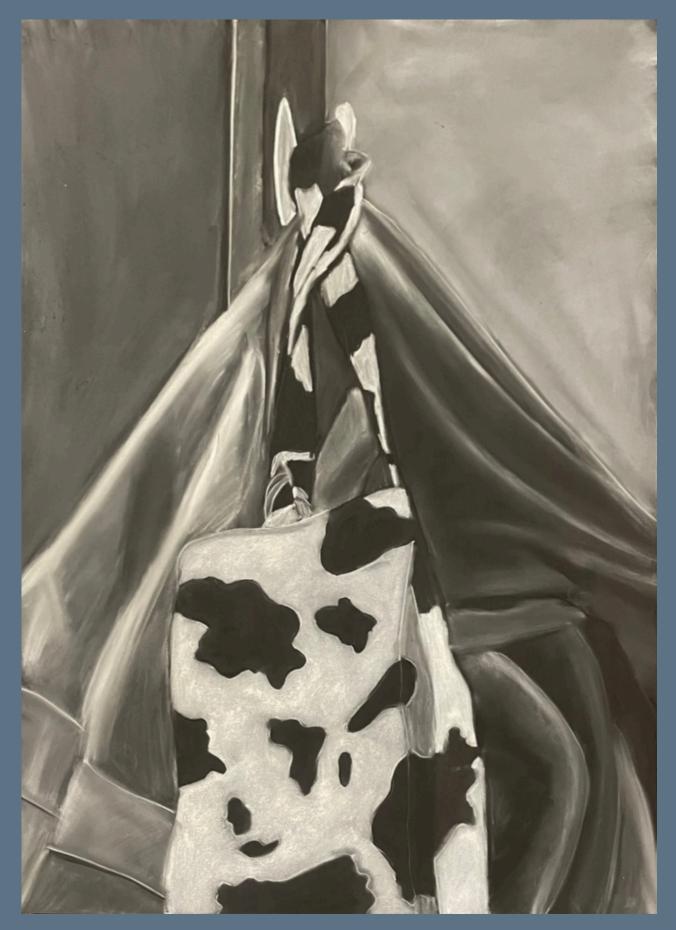
PERFECTION IN MY MIND DOESN'T EXIST.

I WISH GROWING UP WASN'T A THING.

GROWING UP MEANS YOU ARE LET GO OF AND FORGOTTEN ABOUT.

YOUNGER ME WAS LIVING IN A FANTASY SOMETIMES I WISH I COULD HAVE STAYED THERE.

GROWING UP SUCKS.



BY: MIRANDA ROSE ROSSI





OURBOROS BY: LAUREN E. MCGOVERN

WHEN DID SELF-CANNIBALIZATION BECOME A SYMBOL OF PERFECTION?

CYCLES, LIFE AND DEATH... SOMETHING OF TRANSFIGURATION.

THE SERPENT EATS ITSELF. DI WE ETCHED IT INTO BOOKS, HOW DECLARING IT ENLIGHTENED. WE AND YET IT CHOKES ON THE RATTLE-TIP, EYES WIDE AND PUPILS SLIT.

OH, OUROBOROS, HOW DOES YOUR TAIL TASTE?

WE CALL THE HOUND A FUNNY BEAST. JAWS SNAPPING AT WHAT IT CAN NEVER REACH. BUT WHEN IT COMES DOWN TO THOSE OPHIDIANS, THE GESTURE IS DIVINE.

YET WHEN I RUN IN CIRCLES, I FEEL MUCH MORE LIKE A DOG. REITERATION IS THE CURSE

THAT DENIES COMPLETION. REPETITION, THE ART OF GETTING NOWHERE. I'D ASK YOU, CANINE, HOW DOES YOUR TAIL FEEL ON YOUR TONGUE? BUT IT SEEMS WE'RE BOTH DESTINED TO WONDER; HOW MUCH MORE WOULD WE ACCOMPLISH IF WE'D JUST KEPTOUR EYES FORWARD.

> PERHAPS IT'S A MAMMALIAN CURSE.

IWASN'T PAYING MUCH ATTENTION, AND SO I BIT THE NAIL OF MY THUMB DOWN TO THE QUICK. I FELT THE IRON IN MY LIPS AS IT BLED. SOMEHOW IT TASTES LESS LIKE ENLIGHTENMENT, AND MORE LIKE A LACK OF THOUGHT.

I SUPPOSE SOME THINGS JUST OUGHT TO BE LEFT TO THE SNAKES.

RUNNING ZOMBIE BY: LAURA SCHUBERT

CRE

FASTER, FASTER! LIFT THOSE ERODING LEGS AND RUN FASTER SLAM YOUR SHOES ONTO THE PAVEMENT AND USE THE MOMENTUM TO GET A HEAD START FUNNY, THE SHOES HAVE SOLES WHILE YOURS HAS ASCENDED OR DESCENDED WHATEVER

YES YOU'RE A ZOMBIE, BUT WHAT EXCUSES IS THAT? SO RUN FASTER

YOU EAT OTHERS TO COMPENSATE FOR YOUR EMPTY SKULL AND HEARTLESS CHEST BUT THAT WHE JUST SLOW YOU DOWN, SO ONLY FOCUS ON RUNNING

IF YOU MAKE AN HONEST EFFORT YOU COULD CATCH UP TO THE ALIVE VERSION OF YOURSELF



BY: MARIA ROBLES



BY: MARIA ROBLES









BY: REBECCA MARTINEZ

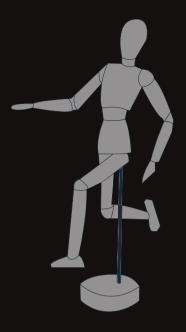


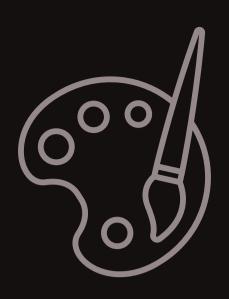
BY: ALEXIS PEREZ



BY: EDIMARY REYES







BY: ANGEL ZAMORRA





BLOODSHOT MOON

LACROIX MANOR FRIDAY NIGHT. OCTOBER 27TH. 8:47 PM.

I HEARD A GRIM YELL COMING FROM THE CENTER OF THE MANOR. THE DOORS LOCKED, BARRING ANYONE FROM THE ENTRY. THE GROUNDSKEEPER IS ABLE TO FORCE THE DOORS OPEN, BUT NOTHING IS FOUND THAT SHOWS INDICATION OF A BARRICADE; NOR HAD IT APPEARED THAT THE DOORS HAD BEEN LOCKED.

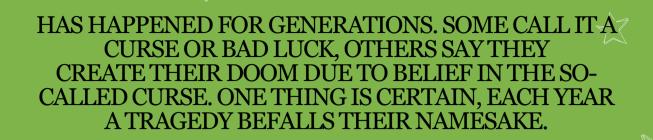
RED, GOLD, AND BLACK DECORATE THE ROOM. ORNATE PILLARS WITH ROSES AND CROSSES. FESTIVE SUPPLIES ALONG THE LEFT WALL. TOWARDS THE RIGHT, MIRRORS. IN THE BACK DRAPES HIDING HUGE WINDOWS THAT SHOW THE GARDEN. THIS IS THE BALL ROOM THAT MADAME LACROIX HAD THE MOST PRIDE IN A GIFT FOR HER WIFE, LADY CLAIRE.

THE LADY OF THE HOUSE IS FOUND IN THE CENTER DIRECTLY UNDER THE CHANDELIER LIGHTING UP THE ROOM. CRUCIFIED IN HER POSE. ROSES LAY AMONG HER, OUTLINING HER BODY. THE BULBS POINT TOWARDS HER AS THE STEMS ARE AWAY FROM HER BODY.

THE BLOODSHOT CURSE HAS TAKEN ANOTHER VICTIM, FROM THE LACROIX FAMILY NAME. ONCE A YEAR THE BLEEDING MOON APPEARS DURING THE HARVEST MONTHS TO THE LACROIX FAMILY, AS

24

HE SHEAF FALL 2023



WE AWAIT MADAME LACROIX. I HEAR THE STEP OF HER HEELS DOWN THE HALLWAY, AS SHE GETS CLOSER, RUNS TO THE CENTER OF THE ROOM, HOLDING HER DEAR CLAIRE. SHE SCREAMS AND SOBS. TEARS ROLLING DOWN HER EYES. THE ENTRY DOOR

TEARS ROLLING DOWN HER EYES. THE ENTRY DOOR SLAMS SHUT.

CLICK.

DARKNESS BEFALLS THE ROOM. A THUNDEROUS CRASH WAS HEARD, METAL TWISTING AND GLASS SHATTERING. MY GUT WRENCHED AS THERE COULD ONLY BE ONE OUTCOME. I SCRAMBLE ALONG THE WALL TOWARDS THE OPPOSITE END OF THE BALLROOM, APPROACHING I OPEN THE DRAPES, LETTING WHAT LITTLE LIGHT THERE IS IN THE NIGHT SHINE THROUGH.

AS I FEARED, AS WE ALL FEARED, THE CHANDELIER CRASHED INTO MADAME LACROIX AND LADY CLAIRE. ANOTHER TRAGEDY CLAIMING TWO VICTIMS. THOUGH I MAY NOT BE FAMILY, I SEE THE BLEEDING MOON ABOVE THE CENTER OF THE GARDEN. THE MOON BLEEDS INTO THE FOUNTAIN, PAINTING THE WATERS RED.

THE SHEAF FALL 2023

25

DIVINE NIGHT BY: JADE DESIREE NELSON

ANIGHT WITHOUT STARS A SLEEP WITHOUT DREAMS **BEING IN THE** DARKNESS **ONE MAY BECOME** FRIGHTENED DON'T BE AFRAID DARKNESS IS WHERE **CREATION BEGAN** WHEN THE SUN SETS AND THE LIGHT FADES AWAY ITS THE RETURN TO A FAMILIAR PLACE

PURPLE

LIT AND ART

BY: MANPREET KAUR

IN A LAND FAR AWAY FROM WHERE SHE WAS BORN, A SIKH GIRL GREW UP AMIDST A WORLD UNKNOWN. WITH A HEART FULL OF LOVE AND A SPIRIT SO BOLD, SHE MADE HER WAY IN A PLACE THAT WAS NOT HER OWN.

THOUGH SHE LONGED TO SEE THE LAND OF HER FOREFATHERS, TO FEEL THE SUN ON HER FACE AND THE EARTH BENEATH HER TOES, SHE COULD ONLY IMAGINE THE STORIES HER GRANDPA TOLD, OF A HOME FAR AWAY THAT SHE WOULD NEVER KNOW

AND AS TIME PASSED BY, HER GRANDPA GREW OLD, HIS DAYS NUMBERED, HIS SPIRIT TIRED AND WORN.



SHE DREAMED OF THE DAY SHE WOULD SEE HIM AGAIN, BUT FATE HAD OTHER PLANS AND THAT DAY NEVER DAWNED.

HER HEART BROKE WHEN SHE HEARD THE NEWS, THAT HER GRANDPA HAD PASSED AWAY IN A LAND FAR AWAY.

SHE WISHED SHE COULD HAVE BEEN THERE TO HOLD HIS HAND, TO SAY GOODBYE AND LET HIM KNOW SHE LOVED HIM

EVERY DAY.

BUT THOUGH SHE NEVER GOT TO SAY GOODBYE IN PERSON, HER GRANDPA'S SPIRIT LIVED ON IN HER HEART AND SOUL. AND SHE KNEW THAT WHEREVER SHE WENT IN THIS WORLD, HER ROOTS IN THAT LAND WOULD ALWAYS MAKE HER WHOLE.

SO SHE HELD ON TIGHT TO THE MEMORIES AND STORIES, OF HER GRANDPA'S LIFE AND THE LAND HE CALLED HOME. AND SHE CARRIED ON WITH A HEART FULL OF LOVE, AS SHE MADE HER WAY IN A PLACE NOT HER OWN.



YOU DON'T GET TO CHOOSE YOUR DAUGHTER

BY: LAURA SCHUBERT

I WILL SPEND THE REST OF MY LIFE TRYING TO BE HALF THE WOMAN THAT YOU ARE

YOU MUST BE TIRED OF ME CONSTANTLY APOLOGIZING

I KNOW I DO IT OFTEN, BUT I DON'T LIKE DISAPPOINTING YOU

PLEASE BE PATIENT, BECAUSE ONE DAY I WILL MAKE IT UP TO YOU

I WILL BUILD YOU A PALACE FAR FAR AWAY FROM THE ATROCITIES OF THE WORLD

A HOME YOU CAN CALL YOURS, A HOME STRONG AND BEAUTIFUL LIKE YOU

NOT TO BE REPETITIVE, BUT WOULD YOU BELIEVE ME IF I SAID I AM SORRY?

I AM. I AM SORRY.

I AM SORRY FOR ALL I HAVE DONE, AND WHAT I WILL CONTINUE TO DO

YOU DON'T GET TO CHOOSE YOUR DAUGHTER, BUT I AM GRATEFUL THAT YOU ARE MY MOTHER.

THANK YOU.

GENUINELY INDIGENOUS BY: LAVENDER OTIENO

IN NORTHEAST AFRICA, WHERE THE OMO VALLEY AND THE NILE RIVER MEET, LIFE IS SWEET. THE FOOD IS PURE, THE WATER IS FRESH AND ABUNDANT. CROPS ARE RICH, THERE IS COMMUNITY, SHELTER, LOVE, AND WISDOM BEING SHARED AMONGST NEIGHBORS. THE SUN IS REGULARLY ABLAZE, ONLY HIDDEN DURING THE RAIN, IN THIS LIFE ON THE EQUATOR.

IN AMANI PROVINCE, WHICH TRANSLATES TO PEACE ZONE, A YOUNG WOMAN NAMED DALINA LIVES WITH HER FAMILY, EXTENDED FAMILY, AND FAMILY FRIENDS IN WHAT IS PARADISE. GENEROSITY AND COMPASSION ARE EMBEDDED IN THE PEOPLE OF AMANI'S DNA.

ONE WARM MORNING, DALINA'S FATHER ABA, RECOMMENDS HIM AND HIS CHILDREN GO LOBSTER FISHING. DALINA ASSISTS HER FATHER REQUESTS BY WALKING OVER TO HER NEIGHBOR'S HOUSE TO TRADE COW BUTTER FOR FISHING BAIT FROM HER NEIGHBOR WHO SHE ALSO CALLS ABA, OUT OF ENDEARMENT. THIS SECOND ABA IS OLDER THAN DALINA'S BIOLOGICAL FATHER BY FORTY-FOUR YEARS, YET HE IS STILL STRONG, VIBRANT, AND INTELLIGENT. UPON RETURNING HOME, DALINA, ABA, THE ELDEST BROTHER JABRO, AND YOUNGEST SISTER YAYA, TAKE TRAVEL ON A LOCAL NEIGHBOR'S TOK-TOK TO THE COAST OF THE INDIAN OCEAN TO GO LOBSTER FISHING. ON THE SANDY SHORES OF MALINDI, SOME MILES FROM HOME, THE FAMILY OF AMANI PROVINCE TAKE A BREAK TO HYDRATE WITH TROPICAL FRUITS AND COCONUT WATER FROM THE LOCAL TREES BEFORE SETTING THEIR SAILS.ABA BECAME SURPRISED THAT THE TIDES WERE MORE ROUGH THAN USUAL ON SUCH A WARM DAY, BUT BEING INDIGENOUS TO THE REGION, ABA AND HIS FAMILY INTUITIVELY NAVIGATE THE OCEAN AS THEY CONTINUE TO FISH.

SUDDENLY, IN THE DISTANT VIEW, ANOTHER BOAT SLIGHTLY BIGGER THAN ABA'S CAPTURES THE GAZE OF THE FAMILY. THIS UNFAMILIAR BOAT HAS ANCHOR ROPES WHICH ARE IN TANGLES. THE ATTENDANTS ARE SCURRYING TRYING TO UNDO THE MESH AND ROPE ENTANGLEMENT. DALINA'S FATHER ADVISES HIS CHILDREN, "WE SHOULD HELP THESE CIVILIANS WHO SEEM TO BE STRUGGLING TO ANCHOR THEIR BOAT, AND PRESUMABLY A CATCH".

BOTH BOATS COME ALONGSIDE ONE ANOTHER. DALINA, JABRO, AND YAYA REALIZE THAT THEY'VE COME FACE TO FACE WITH A FAMILY SHARING SIMILARITY IN AGE, AND GENDER YET THEY APPEAR RATHER DIFFERENT THAN THE INDIGENOUS PEOPLE OF EAST AFRICA. THEY DO NOT SPEAK THE SAME LANGUAGE, ALTHOUGH BODY GESTURES ARE UNIVERSAL WHICH BRINGS ABA AND HIS FAMILY TO FURTHER HELP THIS SEEMINGLY LOST FAMILY ANCHOR THEIR BOAT.

DALINA ASKS HER FATHER, "ABA, WHY DON'T WE HELP THE TRAILBLAZERS WITH A MEAL AFTER DOING ALL THAT WORK?", "YOU'RE RIGHT DALINA, THOSE TIDES MIGHT'VE BEEN TOO MIGHTY FOR THEM TO NAVIGATE" ABA SAYS.



AFTER DOCKING ASHORE, BOTH FAMILIES WALK STREETSIDE WHERE THERE ARE TONS OF FOOD BEING SERVED BY DIFFERENT VENDORS, DIFFERENT METHODS OF TRANSPORTATION, AND A VARIETY OF SELLERS. THE SUN IS SETTING. THE EVENINGS' ENERGY IS MEMORABLE, AND THE STREET FOOD IS NUTRITIOUS. WHILE FELLOWSHIPPING, DALINA, JABRO, AND YAYA, LEARN THAT RAHNI, SAMSON, AND BELLE ARE COINCIDENTALLY A MIRROR OF THEMSELVES. CONCLUDING THAT TRADITION OF FELLOWSHIP REGARDING FATHERS AND THEIR CHILDREN SURPASSES AMANI PROVINCE.

AFTER A PROMISING EVENING, ABA SIGNALS HIS NEW FATHER FRIEND THAT REST SHOULD BE ASSURED, AND HIMSELF AND HIS CHILDREN ARE WELCOMED TO COME BACK TO AMANI. WITHOUT WORDS, FATHER GREW TEARY EYED, PRESSED HIS PALMS TOGETHER, AND ACCEPTED THE INVITATION.

THERE WAS NO CONQUEST AND DESTRUCTION, THERE WAS NO DIVIDE AND INVASION. THERE WAS SIMPLY A MUTUAL RESPECT AS ONE RACE, THE HUMAN RACE. HOSPITALITY AND CARE FOR ONE ANOTHER, IN TIMES OF ADVERSARY, AND NEED. LIFE IS SIMPLE WHEN KINDNESS IS EXTENDED, NO MATTER WHAT THE DIFFERENCES ARE. TO COME ACROSS THE AMANI PEOPLE, IN A TIME OF CONFUSION, FATHER AND HIS CHILDREN WERE HUMBLY GRATEFUL. KINDNESS, COMPASSION, AND GENEROSITY ARE AS RICH AS THE BLOOD OF THE PEOPLE OF AMANI PROVINCE IN OMO VALLEY, NORTHEAST AFRICA.

