

As I stare into the smudged
rectangle glass in front of me
I see a girl who I know oh
so well - and a girl I am just
starting to meet.

This girl has ~~too~~ tired glassy
eyes telling her to lay down

This girl has ears that teach
her how beautiful and lonely
complete utter silence can be.

This girl has a head full of
hair covering scars no one will
ever see.

This girl has a nose longing
for the smell of the outside world
but is instead stuffed with a
long purple tube.

This girl has a laugh so loud
it makes her fall to the ground
time and time again.

This girl has cheeks that ache
from everytime she has smiled just
in the past 6 hours.

This girl has hands that can
paint a language only understood by
few.

This girl has fingertips that can
read her name ~~at~~ better than her eyes
once did.

This girl has muscles and joints that
once took her dancing throughout the country
but now keep her sitting on the same blue
chair day in and day out.

This girl has feet that she often looks
up at yet tries so so hard to stay down.

This girl has a heart bursting with
joy - yet that same heart works harder
than she will ever really know.

This girl has a mind that thinks in
all three tenses at once - but one that is
always driven by gratitude and perspective.

This girl has a throat that swallows
salty water droplets that silently
fall from her eyes.

This girl has the best people
in her corner and hands to
squeeze first and hands that squeeze
back.

This girl has become so much
yet has a never ending journey
to keep becoming.

This girl has become.

This girl is becoming.

1/4/2024

Julia