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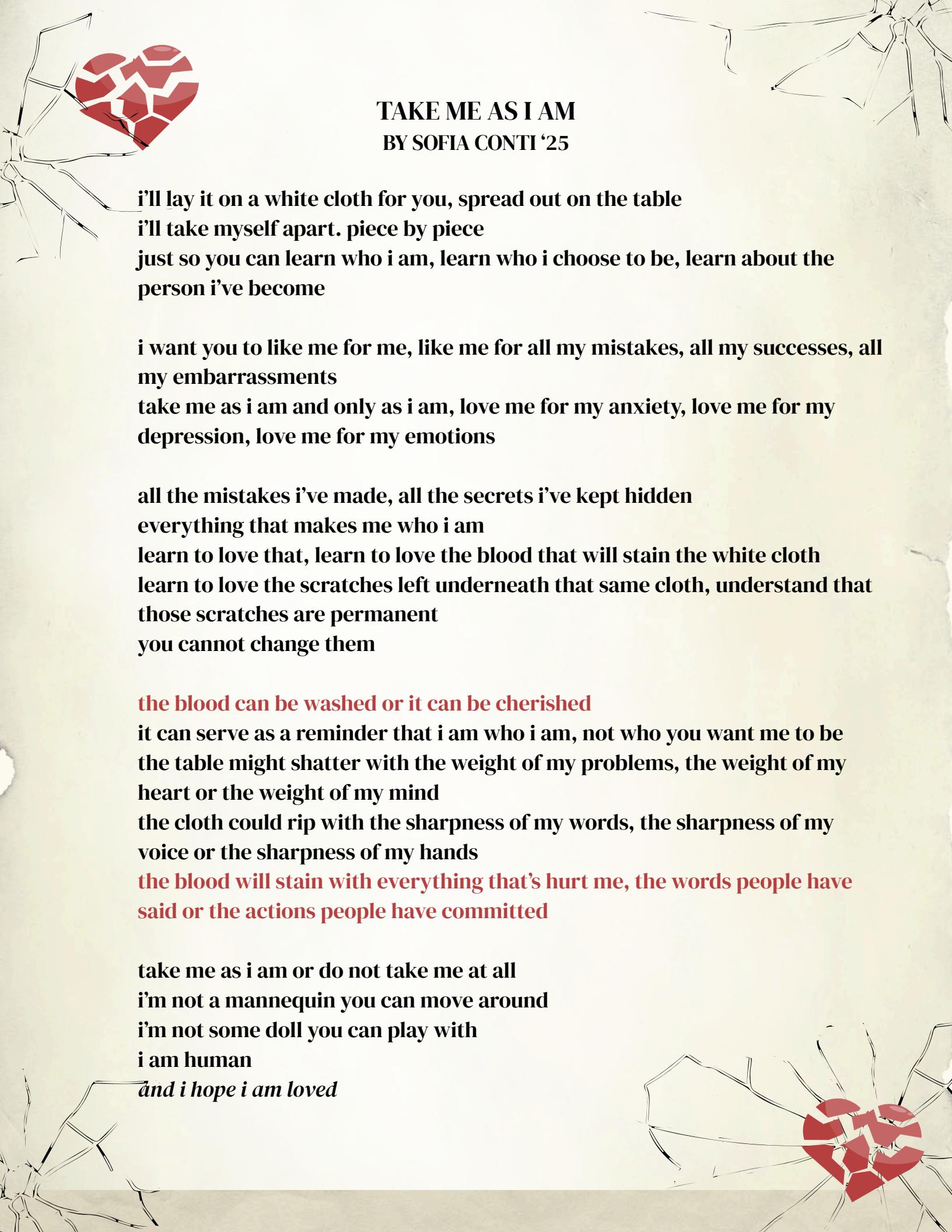
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TAKE ME AS I AM

BY SOFIA CONTI '25

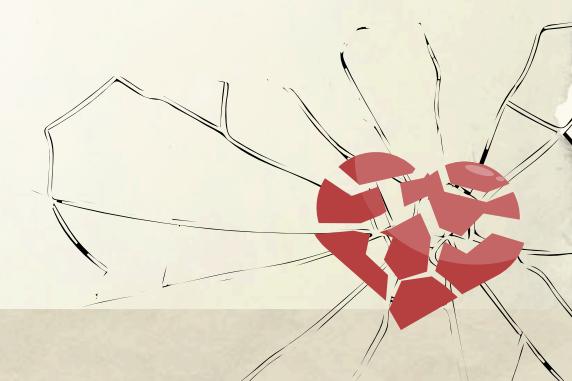
i'll lay it on a white cloth for you, spread out on the table
i'll take myself apart. piece by piece
just so you can learn who i am, learn who i choose to be, learn about the
person i've become

i want you to like me for me, like me for all my mistakes, all my successes, all
my embarrassments
take me as i am and only as i am, love me for my anxiety, love me for my
depression, love me for my emotions

all the mistakes i've made, all the secrets i've kept hidden
everything that makes me who i am
learn to love that, learn to love the blood that will stain the white cloth
learn to love the scratches left underneath that same cloth, understand that
those scratches are permanent
you cannot change them

the blood can be washed or it can be cherished
it can serve as a reminder that i am who i am, not who you want me to be
the table might shatter with the weight of my problems, the weight of my
heart or the weight of my mind
the cloth could rip with the sharpness of my words, the sharpness of my
voice or the sharpness of my hands
**the blood will stain with everything that's hurt me, the words people have
said or the actions people have committed**

take me as i am or do not take me at all
i'm not a mannequin you can move around
i'm not some doll you can play with
i am human
and i hope i am loved



G I R L H O O D



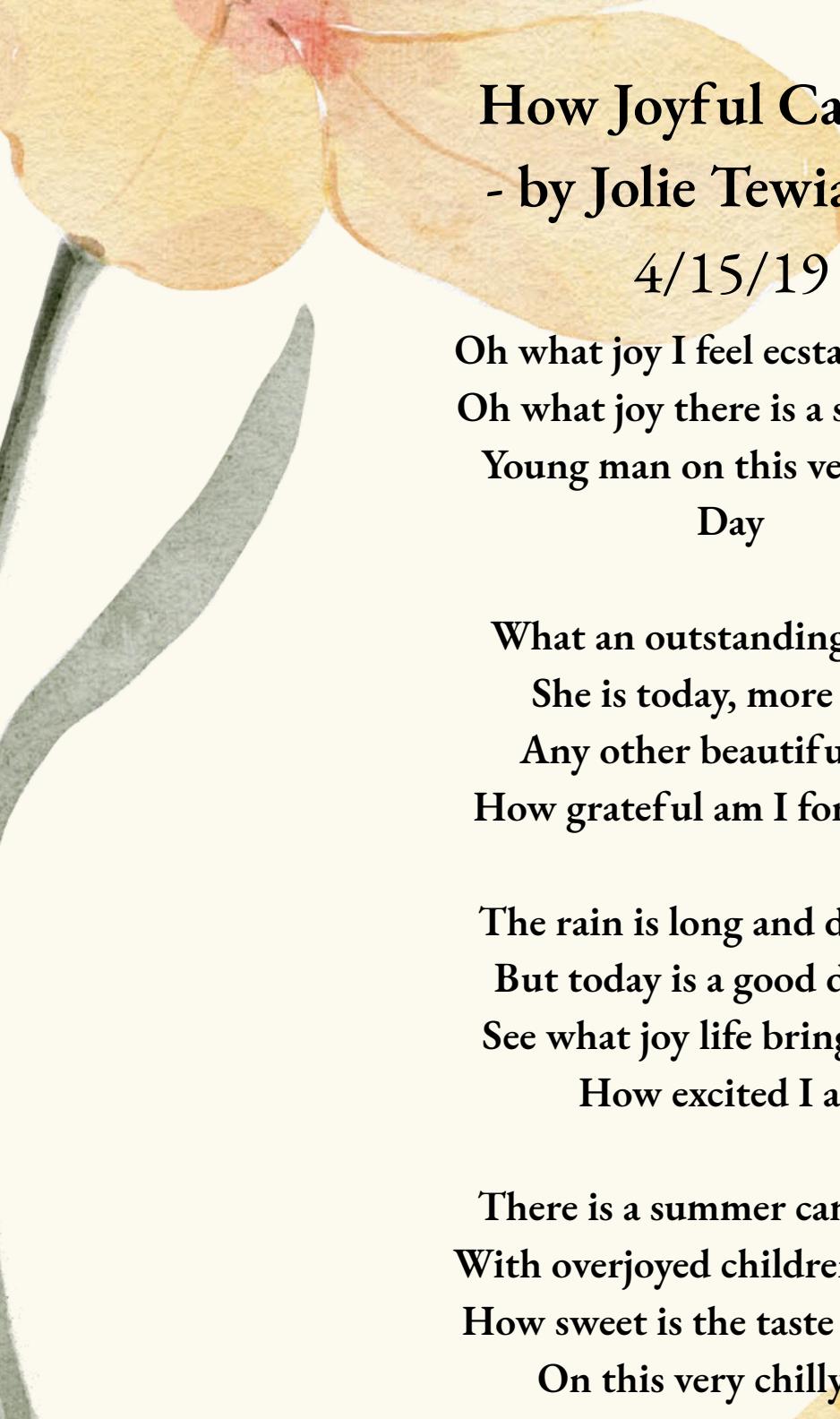
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“SELHIF PORTRAIT”

BY EMILY SULLIVAN ‘25



PIECE WAS CREATED USING ACRYLIC PAINT ON CANVAS



How Joyful Can I Be?

- by Jolie Tewiah '25

4/15/19

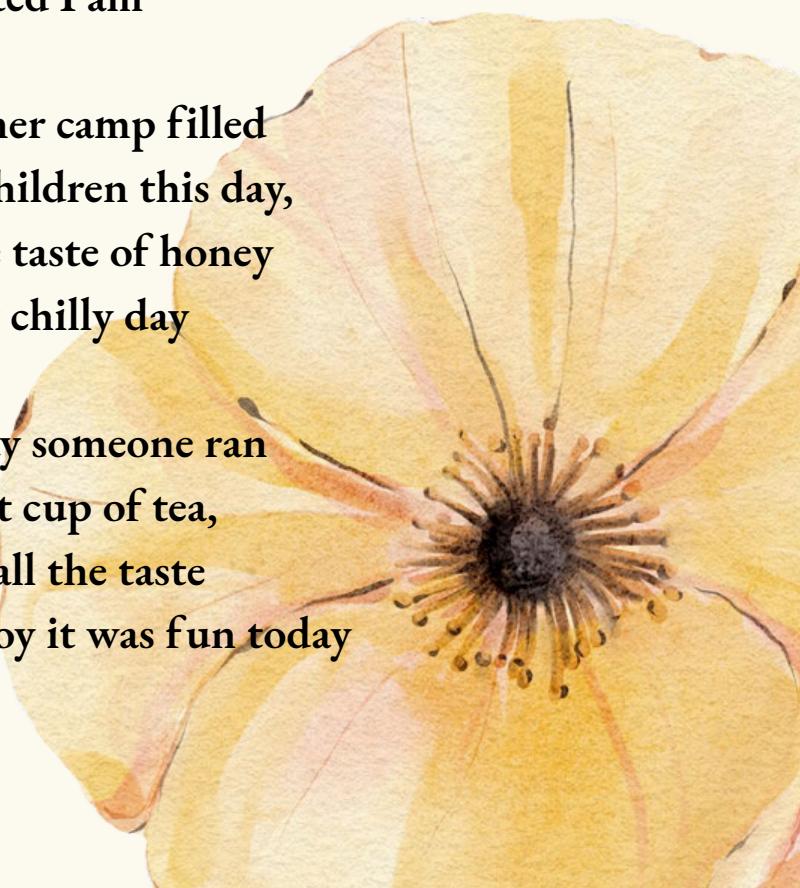
Oh what joy I feel ecstatic today,
Oh what joy there is a strapping,
Young man on this very good
Day

What an outstanding dancer
She is today, more than
Any other beautiful day,
How grateful am I for this day

The rain is long and dreadful,
But today is a good day, let's
See what joy life brings today,
How excited I am

There is a summer camp filled
With overjoyed children this day,
How sweet is the taste of honey
On this very chilly day

On this chilly day someone ran
Into my sweet cup of tea,
How crude, all the taste
Ran away, oh what joy it was fun today



CHERRY SEEDS

BY ASHLEY SANCHEZ '25

I EAT CHERRIES—
RIPE, RED, STILL WARM FROM THE SUN.
SOMETIMES,
I ALSO EAT THE CHERRY SEEDS.

THEY SAY:
BE CAREFUL.
THE PIT HAS POISON.
BUT WHAT SWEETNESS EVER COMES
WITHOUT A STONE AT ITS CENTER?

I HAVE BEEN WARNED
NOT TO SWALLOW MISTAKES.
TO PICK AROUND THEM,
TO KNOW BETTER,
TO KEEP MYSELF SAFE.



BUT SEEDS HAPPEN.
BY ACCIDENT.
BY HUNGER.
BY TRUSTING TOO MUCH IN THE TASTE.
THEY LODGE IN THE THROAT.
REMIND YOU
HOW FRAGILE BREATH CAN BE.
AND YET—
I AM STILL HERE.

LIFE IS NOT WITHOUT ITS POISONS.
WE CHEW ANYWAY.
WE REACH IN,
AGAIN AND AGAIN,
FOR SWEETNESS LACED WITH RISK.
I HAVE SWALLOWED MORE THAN SEEDS:
WORDS I SHOULD NOT HAVE SAID,
TRUTHS I WAS NOT READY TO KNOW,
LOVE THAT CLUNG LIKE PULP
AND LEFT ITS STAIN.



BUT EVEN BITTER THINGS
CAN SOFTEN IN THE GUT,
CRACK OPEN,
GROW ROOTS IN THE DARK.
SO NO—
I DO NOT FEAR THE SEEDS.
THEY ARE PROOF
THAT I DARED TO TASTE
AND NOT JUST OBSERVE.
THAT I LIVED.
THAT I AM STILL
LEARNING
HOW.



INFATUATION IS A SIN
BY JERIAH ELLIOTT '26

Every bone in my body is drawn to you
I get on my knees and beg for you to stay with me
I plead for you to never leave my view
Don't worry I won't let you free
I'll do anything it takes
I'll attach to your bones
I'll hold it till it breaks
So you don't escape from my love
I can't get enough of you
I need you and you need me
You can't exist without my affection
If I wither away Your bones will disintegrate along with mine
We'll be together even in the afterlife
From now till the end of time
We're made to be with each other
Dont try to deny yourself
And finally become free
You love me
You need me
You'll die without me

You.

Love.

Me.



NEW YORK



NEW YORK, 2019
SOPHIA ROXAS '25



NEW YORK, 2019
SOPHIA ROXAS '25



The First Sound of the Future
by Emily Sullivan '25



PIECE ABOVE WAS CREATED WITH COLOR PENCILS ON PAPER



A NEW YORK CITY SUMMER

ELEANOR SEVILLA '25

Mauris vel erat at
Donec venenatis
Nullam
tincidunt



SOPHIA ROXAS '25

JUL 19, 2019 IN QUEBEC, CANADA



SOPHIA ROXAS '25

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On behalf of ELAN Literary Magazine, we want to extend our heartfelt gratitude to all the students who contributed, whether through photography, writing, or art. This magazine wouldn't have been possible without each and every one of you.

With gratitude,
Jolie '25 & Toni '25

