

## ***Imperfect***

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I walked along a trail  
Where the wind sang  
And the birds nested  
Into deeply rooted trees  
Which shaded the ground  
From the warm sunlight  
That occasionally  
Crept in through the gaps  
Between the leaves and branches  
And I thought of you.

A scene so serene  
Yet full of life  
Hidden away beyond  
The busy roads  
And bustling coffee shops  
Filled with intimate conversations  
Broadcast to whoever  
Was close enough to listen  
But couldn't be left alone  
With their thoughts for a moment.

You  
With your eyes  
That cannot see the value  
In yourself  
And the ears  
That couldn't process  
The kind words given to you  
Dismissing everything  
As lies and delusions  
To protect yourself.

You glanced in the mirror  
And smiled  
To see if you felt  
Pretty but

The smile didn't reach your eyes  
And you took it as  
Evidence of  
A face that was doomed  
To be forever  
Imperfect.

You stepped on the scale  
Nearly naked  
With your breath hitched  
Anticipating the number  
That would show your efforts  
Regarding your calorie intake  
And your heart dropped  
When it was as high as you feared  
And you were simply  
Imperfect.

You looked at your grades  
And held back tears  
As you compared yourself  
To your peers  
And rehearsed the lines  
You'd recite to people  
To explain your results  
Although after trying so hard  
You'd concluded you were just  
Imperfect.

You looked around you  
At those who excelled  
Within minutes  
To your months  
And they stuck together  
In a world far  
Far out of your reach  
Where you didn't belong  
Since you were too  
Imperfect.

But you are like this trail  
With cracks in the ground  
And gaps in the shade  
Not like the coffee shops  
Or the fast paced roads  
But a hidden path  
A path in progress  
That leads to who knows where  
Incomplete and  
Imperfect.