

Disability and Shame Special Issue Forum: Creative Works

Out from the Halls

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Abstract: The shame surrounding the construct of disability strikes at the very context of an individual's soul. The healing of shame associated with a learning disability diagnosis is a journey. To be free requires the inner looking into the core of self, once viewed and acknowledged healing enters. In this journey the individual is held by hands greater than their own. The path of healing is an individual passage and choice.

Out from the Halls

My voice rises.
Years have passed since,
I heard,
“You have a LD in Perceptual Organization.”
My well-meaning
Community College,
DSPS advisor stated.
My re-entry into education,
After a 12-year absence.
One graph determined,
and too many Tests.
Placed a blanket of Shame around my Soul.
Carried like Chain Mail,
Intertwined,
This new sense of self.
Who I was, prior was Slammed.
Stuck in-between 2 bookends,
Of
Shame and Resolution.
Resolution took another decade,
To heal the brokenness,
I thought I was.
My entrance into:
the rites and rituals,
Of the Academy,
Offered me,
Community,
A sense of belonging.

Hundreds of hours spent with my Mentor,
Over the course of now 7 years,
and continuing.
So many pages of narrative written.
I emerged,
Like the Phoenix,
A Doctoral Candidate.
All My Shame,
IS
GONE

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