Maintaining A Space Between The Cracks of Black & White

By: A.X. Bueno

Not fully in sight

You almost fade into the background in a world that sees mainly black and white

But you know in your heart that you're there too

You've got a color that's it's own unique hue

It's not easy to see so there are those who make presumptions and dismiss it

But you know what you are and to that you try and stay true

Still there are presumptions and offhand remarks that hurt more than you can admit

Make you doubt and question and feel lesser than you actually are

Some do it without even trying or acknowledging

While others are a bit more callous as they pick at your sore spots and scars

The language you still struggle with, what you look like, the way you act

All that and maybe a few things more that are hard to handle when they come

Sometimes right at you and sometimes from behind your back

But things have gotten better you feel sure

It took plenty of time and self improvement but you feel your place is mostly secure

In the world that is and also where you are now

You've carved out a place for yourself and in some ways you're not fully sure how

You've had a lot of people test you and what you know yourself to be

Some invalidated you but you're still here and still you despite what you couldn't make

them see

And it's become easier for others to grasp what your appearance doesn't make obvious

Which fills you with a bit of soul deep glee

That said the space you've carved in between those perceptions of color wasn't done by

you alone

There are plenty of others who've helped you as you've grown

But ultimately it's still your space made in defiance of those who persist

In spite of those who will deny the complex mix of colors out there in the world

Something that should be clear just by realizing people like you exist