## **Clouded Judgment**

Your friends all think you're happy, And your voice deceives them sadly, You shouldn't treat yourself so badly, Because everybody has their flaws. You use medicine for escaping, Two P.M. and you're not waking. Your dreams are a vacation. You hide inside these walls. You're always looking in the rearview, Missing everything that's near you. Old windows that you peer through, Nobody sees your ghost. The past isn't what makes you, And the whole world doesn't hate you. For your mistakes I forgave you, And that's what matters most. Don't listen to your ego, Or all those misled people.

The real know you're a hero, Keep those thoughts in mind. So come in from the rainclouds, You don't have to be ashamed now. I'll help you clean your brain out, And get you back your light.

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Hey, Austin, ain't it exhausting, Always putting up a front? Never getting what you want? Hey, Austin, you haven't lost yet. One day you'll catch the sun. So please do not give up. Hey, Austin, you got this. Just change your attitude. Because I am here for you.

Zen (Austin) Pennsylvania

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Thank You FOR READING!

Below are some questions to reflect on from this piece. Feel free to also use one as a conversation starter with a fellow reader, or even a loved one on the outside!

What would you like to say to yourself, in order to clear away the clouds that are blocking your own clear and compassionate judgment of yourself?

How can you "come in from the rain clouds," in Zen (Austin)'s sweet and understanding words?

We'd love to hear what you thought of the piece, or if you've had any meaningful conversations as a result. Or perhaps you'd like to share an expression of your own (visual art or creative writing). You are always welcome to write to us at Shining Light at P.O. Box 267, Annville, PA 17003.

\*Note: We will not be able to provide a response to your letter or receipt of your submission, but know that we value your feedback and contributions and will take them seriously.

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