

5-1-2017

Thrift Store Corners

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Recommended Citation

Boling, Anna (2017) "Thrift Store Corners," *Forces*: Vol. 2017 , Article 32.
Available at: <https://digitalcommons.collin.edu/forces/vol2017/iss1/32>

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to be homeless. We have offered her the opportunity to go to rehab the second she is willing and decides to make the leap to recovery. Currently, she sleeps under the bridge near the local hospital. The weather is getting increasingly cold, and she goes days without eating. She is being beaten by an abusive boyfriend who won't let her leave him. Yesterday we found out that she has another black eye. She currently is sick with laryngitis and has no plans to visit a doctor. If I were her, even just one of these things would be a reason to go home and seek help. I don't understand where her mind is at anymore, but I know for sure that Amy is not in control. When I look in her eyes, there is no light. Replacing the once hazel glow is a pained and empty gaze that could only

belong to these horrible creatures. I know she is fighting for her life against these monsters, for I once stood in her shoes. Only by the grace of God, circumstance, and the constant support and love of those around me, I made it out alive.

Now when I think of homelessness, I think Amy. It's much harder to group everyone that lives on the streets as criminals and lowlifes when I'm thinking of my little sister. I love Amy with all my heart. Something I never realized until she was gone is that I should have been a better sister. I'm regretting years of not spending enough time with her because I honestly do not know if or when I will see her again.

My perception about why people are homeless hasn't changed for the most



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