Ideal

Pulling the blade away with every exhale,

Seemed to be the only way I could catch another breath.

I pressed deep, 'til it bled,

Watched it run 'til there was nothing left.

And when I held myself close to feel the pain,

I thought it was the closest thing I'd ever get to love.

I wasn't sure who I was.

My insecurities were peer made and parent made, I knew.

They were society made, and became self-made, I know it.

But you're taught it tough it out,

Perseverance means not being able to show it.

And gasping for air,

I suffered behind closed doors.

Being alone in a crowded room,

You know how that goes.

Because if society defines normal,

And although they don't tell you how to feel.

Keeping my pain quiet,

Appeared to be the most ideal.

...and so I fit the mold.

Although I've never been "morbidly obese"

But with a bigger stomach and rounder cheeks;

I got written off.

Like somewhere there's an attraction scale

and as you get you weight plummets down and-.

You somehow go from average to astounding,

Which was easy to believe with so many thin girls surrounding.

I was never pretty in my own eyes,

& because I never truly accepted my size,

I started using dietary pills the way doctors would advise...against.

And I never recognized the danger,

Because to me it wasn't real.

And although I hated the way they made me feel,

I would've done anything to look ideal.

...attempting to fit that mold

And with every norm,

I began to think that I should.

Even when my heart didn't agree,

My mind felt pulled.

Until I pulled and pulled,

to defy circumstance,

I broke the mold and decided to take a chance:

to be me

And it turns out, I like that girl.

So now when I look in the mirror,

I love myself sincerely.

The world thought it had me,

And I admit nearly.

But now I speak so loud, even the pits of my heart have hear it clearly.

You are fearfully and wonderfully made.

Ideal is a standard,

Of excellence and perfection.

But your worth isn't measured by others attention.

Or TV. Or magazines.

Or opinions. Or society.

Look in the mirror repeat after me.

My heart beat tells me;

Lam beautiful

I am strong.

Trying to fit the mold is where I went wrong.

I believe in my inner beauty,

& I shine on the outside to,

forget what others have said,

what do you mean to you?

It's not thinking outside the box,

It's realizing the box no longer exists.

And if you can hear me at this point,

Then baby girl read my lips.

Ideal is a façade.

Nothing about it is real.

Stop comparing your behind the scenes, To everyone's highlight reels.

You are amazing.

Who are they to tell you otherwise?

Who are they to torment, to tease, to criticize?

It's all lies.

Tell yourself.

I believe in me, & this one is a must.

Because if you can't go off your own words,

Then who else can you trust.

Continue to love who you are,

& feel how you feel.

Who defines your ideal?

...I mean if given the option, I'd rather be real.

I deal is opinionated,

And whose opinion determines where you fall.

So looking back at it,

I don't want to be ideal at all...

And so I broke the mold.

Poem written by: Allv Are

"I want to thank the Morris Education Foundation for the opportunity to share this, if you were touched my this piece feel free to pass it along. Thank you"