

Painted

I was permanently black from genes,
stereotyped by human beings
who segregated my identity,
separating it from a sense of belonging.

So,
I chose to dissect myself like a science project
or surgeon to ethnicity.

I placed my genes outside of my skin
As a way to pretend to be truly cleansed...

But her insides weren't the problem were they?

If you search deeper than skeletons in closets,
I am sure this picture will describe a girl that looks dirty,
face unhappy, and her hair nappy.

A girl who was never taught to fit in,
because fitting in was "too cocky".

This painting is not a Cinderella story.
No, this girl is not about to be kissed by a prince.

Instead
she will be bruised up and kicked, segregated
whipped, but not into perfect shape.

Don't forget that this is just a picture.

So for now ignore the crooked lines
she may try to hide.

As she covers herself with imperfection
as a way to make you blind.

But next time
do not forget
a person
is more
than meets
the eye.

Jayanna Carter

Inspiration: *Ease into You* by Keemo