## Raiyn

No one shares the same story
Life traumatizes us into who the world needs us to be
Our handling of life never gets easier
We deceive ourselves into feeling better when life gets too hard
Then we lie to others to protect ourselves
The world will continue to move as we rented people
try to keep performing
The world cannot see us as we are- broken and replaceable

"We wear the mask that grins and lies, It hides our cheeks and shades our eyes,— This debt we pay to human guile; With torn and bleeding hearts we smile, And mouth with myriad subtleties."

Our griefs haunt us to no end
A shadow steals our rest
We suffocate
As we sleep our memories sit on our chest stealing our lives from us
But our mornings are determined by us
We can accept our pain
Or fight for a better morning

"The night—yours to decide, Among drink, or books, or lying there. On your back, or curled up."

There are too many people betting against me for me not to root for myself
All I have is me
My past haunts but it is still greedy
It threatens to steal my future
But I select my strongest fighter - me
As the pain intensifies so does my will

"my one hand holding tight my other hand;"

Though I fight and deceive
Struggle and cry
In my heart is the loudest part of me but the most delicate
Some consider it to be a soul or spirit
I see both
A place that is so precious to me
My deepest desires, most significant dreams, faith, and hope all lie there
But most importantly, hidden in the corners of my heart, small and fragile, is peace

"You must hold your quiet center, where you do what only you can do"

Every day is a blessing and a gift
There is endless pain all around
But we are still here through it all
I am still here - the biggest thing to be grateful for
The pain has not won and neither has the past
They still cast bets against me and hope that I stumble
And all the while life still has not gotten easier but
But we are still here through it all
I am still here - the biggest thing to be happy about
So let's raise a toast to still being here

"come celebrate with me that everyday something has tried to kill me and has failed."