

We all get scared, but tell me, when was the last time you experienced true fear? An elongated moment in time that made you question everything and clarified what was truly important to you. I tried to capture this very moment. Eight months ago, my jaw was broken in two, and now small metal pieces hold my face together. For a month, I couldn't eat, and for a week, I couldn't talk. I was forced to turn to writing. While staying in the hospital, I wrote journal entries. Writing brought me comfort. While working on this project, I found the journals. The very first line of my first entry read, "You did it, god. You scared me". I incorporated this line on the bottom of the quilt in gold paint.

I choose to incorporate gold throughout my painting to portray a heavenly feeling. To establish that this piece of art was a genuine experience but far from reality. I was very inspired by the artist Gustav Klimt throughout my process. He also uses such techniques. The quilting and collage are representative of the comfort mechanisms that I turn to in times of discomfort: my childhood bed, family photos, and my pet snake. I used both scrap fabric and pictures to make the quilt. I wanted the quilt to be vibrant and nostalgic. This type of sculptural element was something I had never tried before. The focal point of my piece is made in oil paint, a completely new medium to me. I depict two versions of myself: myself in recovery after my jaw surgery, suffering a large amount of physical pain; and myself a few months later, recovered but experiencing mental discomfort. My two selves lay in my childhood bed, sharing the same systems of comfort they always have.

HOW DO I MAKE IT UP TO YOU

Fiona W.

San Francisco, California.