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Section Intro: Facing Reality

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SECTION INTRO



facing reality

For some, the choice between denial and acceptance isn't much of a choice. There are times when life intervenes in ways that are both urgent and unavoidable, and pressing issues make our everyday realities considerably dark.

The authors of this next section were courageous enough to acknowledge and address this darkness while beautifully articulating its harsh bite. Chronic illness, degenerative diseases, mental instability, and growing up in an unsound world are just a few of the topics comprising the struggles on the pages that follow.

By offering an intimate glimpse into the reality of what haunts them, the following contributors encourage others to feel less insecure about

their own trials, while thoroughly engaging the reader. They remind us of why it's so important to write, rehash, and thoughtfully probe the discordant and disturbing events of our lives. They remind us that we all travel through our own darkness and most importantly, that a glimmer of light often lies somewhere ahead.

Each story relies on our ability to recognize and relate our own difficulties to those of our contributors. And we are invited to draw on their courage as they reveal to us the pained and at times tragic accounts of those close to them.

—Brianna Edgerley-Dallal, Mavis Lee, and Alexander Nelson