

GIFT FROM GOD

CLAIRE B.



I call Lizzie my “little big sister,” because she’s older than me but half my size. She was born on May 7, 1997 with a rare genetic syndrome called Trisomy 18, also known as Edward’s Syndrome. She has an extra chromosome 18, which causes severe developmental delay and physical handicap.

Almost every doctor told my mom that the odds were slim that she’d live past a year. The uncertainty of what her lifespan will be and her fragile health has created a great deal of instability in my family life.

For my Final Project, I would like to honor her—her strength and her abilities, which are too often undermined. I also want to address the social stigma around people with disabilities.

I chose to work with ink because the medium allows me to have control and be deliberate with each line. I chose to write on the wall, making the messages clear and hard to ignore.

Claire B