## GIRL IS GLUED TO DOOR

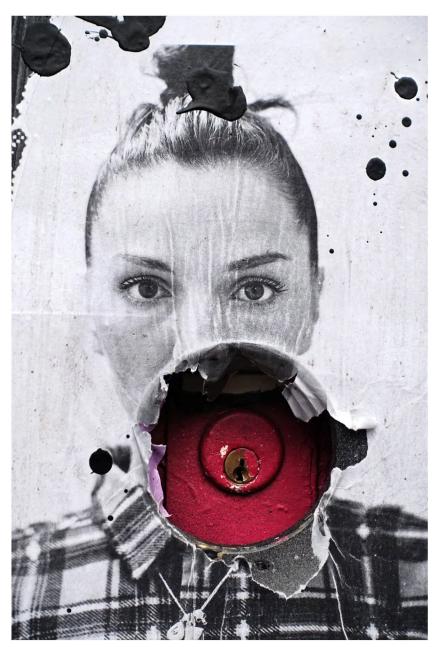


Image: "Untold Stories" by Judith Fox. "Girl is Glued to Door" was written by William Ross for *Rattle*'s Ekphrastic Challenge, June 2023, and selected as the Artist's Choice.

poem by William Ross

There are things I still don't understand about you. Your mouth would tell me, but there has been a violence, your voice punched away for being in the wrong place, a darkness thrown

in spatters and now your face. Like a wanted poster, you stare out, hair swept back so you see clearly, confronting the world head-on. Are you followed? Are you hunted?

I've been combing dispatches, the cryptic signals you send:

the flannel shirt, choice of lumberjacks and grunge musicians, plaid considered dangerous in some circles; the skull pendant on a string.

And messages from a hunter of images, ones you did not intend:

the fierce defiance of an armoured door, blunt violence of a ragged hole blasted through your likeness, a documentary record torn open, raw

threshold revealed. The voice shouting: *Entry is Trespass*.

