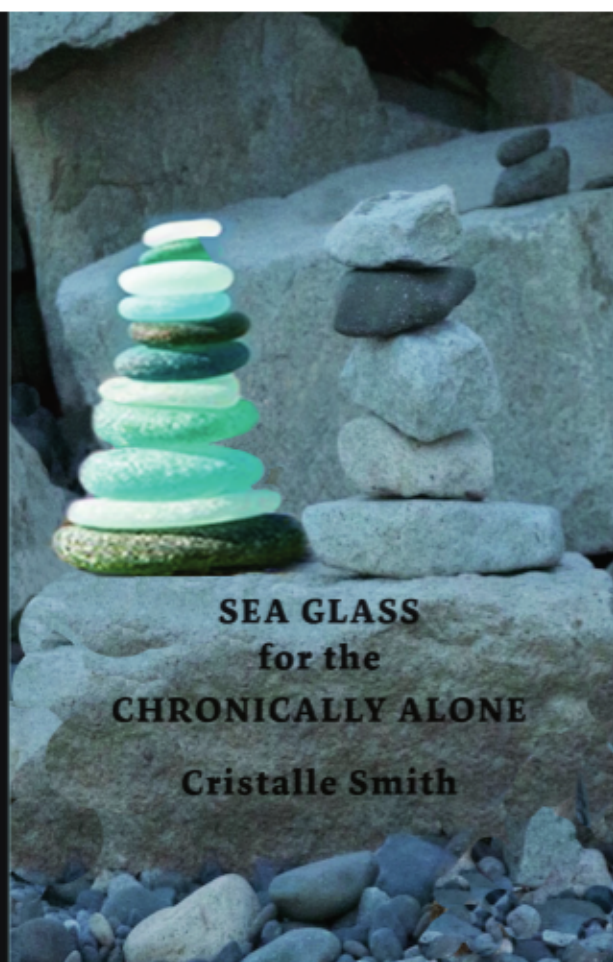


DIS/ABILITY SERIES #23



BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES

Cristalle Smith is published in
Arc Poetry Magazine,
Room Magazine,
QWERTY Magazine,
The Maynard,
and elsewhere.

Cristalle won *subTerrain Magazine's*
Lush Triumphant Literary Awards
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She is a PhD student at the
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A POEM FOR THAT PSYCHIATRIC NURSE AT PENTICTON HOSPITAL: 2015

What do I know of sadness? Peach
skin, soft flesh, red pit: to die

takes ten-pound apple seed
arsenic. Or perhaps

sweet almond oil milled
between fingertips, my hair

matted in epoxy strips.
This is a clothespin line drying

rack: stiff Levi's bleached, gravel
knee abrasions, seesaw

abandonment. I story memories
Mother told. We slept cold, barren

cardboard doors. We escaped down
alleyways in Airdrie, our peach

house leaning against red Corvettes
screaming. Outside, there's baby

sleeping in a toboggan, walk
round once more. We need

hours to remember how
Grandmother pruned our madness.

Sea Glass for the Chronically Alone

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