

With "I Am A Princess," Helen Farnham has written an elegy of contemporary femininity, the state of being "merely objects on display for...viewing pleasure." Helen, who composed this piece in JC Lee's class "Writing the Body," powerfully captures the looming specter of such fetishistic voyeurism and violence by citing the spate of sexual assaults reported during the 2022-2023 school year at Pitt. Her vulnerability in sharing her own experiences with harassment as well as those of her peers is commendable, and it reminds us of writing's immense capacity to bear witness to the truth; that in doing so, writing can move us, change us, force us to reckon with that which is intolerable. For these reasons and more, it is the winning entry for the 2024 Composition Awards.