The Thirteenth Circle

A Confessional

Chaz Allen

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www.ChazAllenArt.com/reachout

This book is dedicated to my mother, sister, and father; to our story, and to the impact I hope to make through it.

Author Testimony

"I want this book to be something people read and resonate with. I don't want people to feel sorry for me, dwell on the details shared, think I'm just whining, or spend too much time trying to decipher anything; it may take a few times around for that. I want people to understand It's much bigger than me. Like many before, I want this to be an example for all who have struggled. It's meant to show how they can overcome; that it is possible."

"These are ongoing issues that exist in all communities around the world. I didn't write this as an attempt to convey some sort of unjust mistreatment by life, but to bring to light issues so many people face and never find a way out of. This is just the beginning and I'm quite anxious to see how people respond. I hope I'm able to utilize this for much more going forward, but regardless, there is more work to come; more refined work. I'll always be a writer, no matter what."

Table of Contents

Prologue	1
3am	2
Birth:Death	3
Bound	4
Butterfly	5
Cataclysm	6
Catch and Release	7
Celestial	8
CHI	9
Climb	10
Courage	11
Dark Matter	12
Day 3	13
Descendant	14
Destiny	15
Deus	16
Discovery	17
Emotion	18
Epiphany	19
Epitome	20
Faith	21
Future	22
Gatekeeper	23
Growth	24
Hell	25
I'm Sure	26
Identity	27
Image of a Ghost	28
Indignation	29
It Breeds	30
Kings	31
Love	32
Mind	33
Missing Her	34
Moonlight	35

Mother	36
Once	37
Pandora	38
Peace	39
Posterity	40
Prairie	41
Puppet Master	42
Purgatory	43
Purpose	44
Rain	45
River	46
Salvation	47
Singularity	48
Sorry	49
Succession	50
Suicide	51
The Brotherhood	52
The Good Shepard	53
The Grey	54
The Less You Say	55
The Marker Ones	56
The Skelton Key	57
The Voyage	58
Time	59
Tomorrow	60
Transmigration	61
Twelve	62
Veil	63
Vessels	64
Void	65
Wave	66
You Should Rest	67
Epilogue	68

TRIGGER WARNING

This book contains sensitive subject matter and imagery that some readers may find controversial.

Certain themes discussed involve: Prostitution, Drug Use, Suicide, and Abortion.

Images depicted are original works that some may perceive as dark and/or violent in nature.

-Prologue-

"Welcome and thank you for taking the time to be here with me today. This is a factual account of my early life. This work represents many facets of that life and me as an individual. Some of which stemmed from moments of insanity, moments of joy, of heartbreak, depression, euphoria, and everything in between."

"I've chosen to share this collection of work because of a deeply seeded need to express a greater message. Some of these pieces you may not fully understand and that's perfectly fine. Quite frankly, I don't understand all of them myself. Study and discern them if you wish. I'll do my best to walk you through my journey thus far. I only ask that you do not hold judgment against me and mine."

"My name is Chaz Allen, and at the time of writing this, I'm 26 years old. I've been fortunate and blessed enough to experience many great things thus far, as well as many bad. I'm a man of many interests and passions, much to the likes of most."

"One thing I know for certain is that I am a writer. It's just about the only thing I've ever done for no reason at all. Well, no other reason than to express an idea. Therefore, I'd like to make this book a walk with you. A conversation if you will, between you and me. I'm going to start at an early point with you. We'll talk about what some of these poems mean, as well as what inspired them. I look forward to discussing these with you. Let's begin..."

3 a.m.

I met an angel; she spoke in the most beautiful of voices.

Birth:Death

A plain of which none know, to a point of singularity; the rays wound tight to transmit.

The cusp of all we hold dear, shaping our deliverance from frailty.

Across eons we collide with a weighted purpose.

Neither forward nor back. The Majestic incarnate, in what has always been.

Do not despair, for I have always known you. Our encapsulation begins when we meet at the horizon.

Bound

There will be a reason I call to you this day. You're fate entwined with infernal offerings, summons me to this cause.

Could you relent to me? Would you dare answer? Would I understand the question?

The shroud remains sewn.
The Thirteenth Cycle deemed it so;
His act was written.

I've gazed in His direction.
He adverted me to you.
I know his will.
He cares not of my sacrifice.
For one day,
I shall come to know.

Butterfly

There you sit perched on my sill, and yet, you've eluded me.

Why should you return, that I may merely observe?

I aim to grasp but am met with breeze from your wings.

To the fields and forests you go.

You've eluded me.

The moons luminance casts radiance upon you, perched on my sill.

My chin rests upon my hands; eyes fixated on your dance.

I dare not grasp, for to the fields and forests you go.

I shall call you,

sleep.

Cataclysm

How frail the mind becomes when it must accept, it cannot control their voices.

It is I, who release and relinquish these binds. The veil of their encumbrance evermore removed.

The hourglass is fleeting as I stand aside it watching, waiting for the light of the sun.

The structure has been rebuilt. We stand on the first plank looking onward, hoping it survives the storm.

"Cataclysm" was one of many pieces I've written, about the "voices" I often tell people these poems come from. I know when I say that I must sound schizophrenic. It's much deeper than that, however, as any creative must "hear" or "see". Many times, the words that are subsequently written, do start as a mere flow of dialogue through my head."

Cutch & Release

Again the door troping.

there was no ensurer.

I walk through - { I cross I enter Dust behind; I enter Stain hath followed.

Catch & Release

Again – The Door.

Last, there was no answer.

I cross – dust behind; stain hath followed.

Forgive Me.



Celestial

Know young one, I will not soon forget you. Your transcendent energy shall reassemble, as you continue in eclectic dwelling.

Understand through this, your prowess has been strengthened and solidified.

Your reincarnation has been written to prosper. I'll pass by you one day. You'll have risen greater than I could have known.

As I had only begun to learn; His grace will touch us both, for only a moment. "Celestial" represents something very personal to me and one of my greatest regrets in life. When I was younger, I ended up in a position of unwanted pregnancy. I received a call from the young woman I was with and was told. I don't think it was coincidence that it happened in the middle of a fight either. I was infuriated and in shock all at once. Ultimately though, I knew I was not ready to be a father. I barely knew how to be a man. So, I forced her to have an abortion."

"Well, forced is probably a strong way of putting it; close, however. We both knew the situation we were in. We awoke early one summer morning and made the two-hour drive to have the procedure. A few hours later, and five hundred dollars spent, we were no longer parents. Though it was extremely difficult to do, in the end, we knew it was for the best."

"I vividly remember us walking back to my car after we left the clinic; she was crying by now. There was a brown paper bag on the floorboard of my car. I don't recall whether or not we planned to have it, but it was thoroughly used. She threw up the entire trip back home. I dwelled on what had transpired for days, even weeks afterward. The guilt wasn't an easy pill to swallow and its repression has been necessary. I'm still not ready for a child even now and wouldn't know what to do if I fell into a similar situation again.".

"I worry a coward would prevail. Then again, through rigorous trial since, perhaps not. This piece was to commemorate the seed that I had given life and hence, had taken away."

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CHI

A movement amidst the ripple, reflective of the paradigm.

Such an intrinsic placement of motion.

The essence of our heavenly body, suspended in the calamity of catch and release.

To the eyes of the Master; to the heart of the apprentice.

Our malevolence embraced by compassionate word.

A step after the preceding; a glance through the visible spectrum.

Inaudible waves collide through the ether's vibration.

Whether the blade has reverberated here, it has surely cut there.