Wheelchair
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Who would’ve thought
that man’s greatest invention
the “wheel”
made to introduce
Speed
Mobility
Freedom
could be so
Binding
Jailing
Shameful

Asking for an elevator
because I can’t take the stairs
like everyone else can.

Weekly raising my hand in a sea of students
only to be called on first
because my teachers thought I could use the attention.

Overhearing students gossip
about how I vanished for a month
and then came back
like this

Terrified, because one day
perhaps no one would be willing to push me
forward

I wanted to be alone most of the time,
hoping that I wouldn’t scar from the searing stabs of their
Stolen glances
Evading eyes
Sharp whispers

Legs thinning,
muscles eroding,
I couldn’t run away from the nightmare I was sitting on.

You begin to notice
Everything that you used to do to others