

*DESOLATE*

*She sits  
a slip of a girl  
a child  
toes seeking coolness  
in a trough of water  
fed from the depths  
of a well channeled  
to a round silver tank  
where cattle  
quench their thirst*

*She fights  
a relentless sun  
blazing from a  
cloudless sky  
tempered only  
with a slight breeze  
generated by  
creaking blades of  
a tall windmill*

*She ignores  
drops of moisture  
weaving lines from  
brow to cheek  
a rivulet or two  
from eye to chin  
tears fighting their way  
through the dust  
on her face*

*Demeanor quiet  
a broken soul  
sent into oblivion  
by unknowing parents  
abandoning their child  
to mental warfare  
an emotional farewell  
to a parent  
leaving reality*

*Life disrupted  
Future unknown  
nightmares shadowing dreams  
heart filled with longings  
unrecognized, unfulfilled  
life and love lost  
never to surface  
the same again*

*Gay Carter  
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