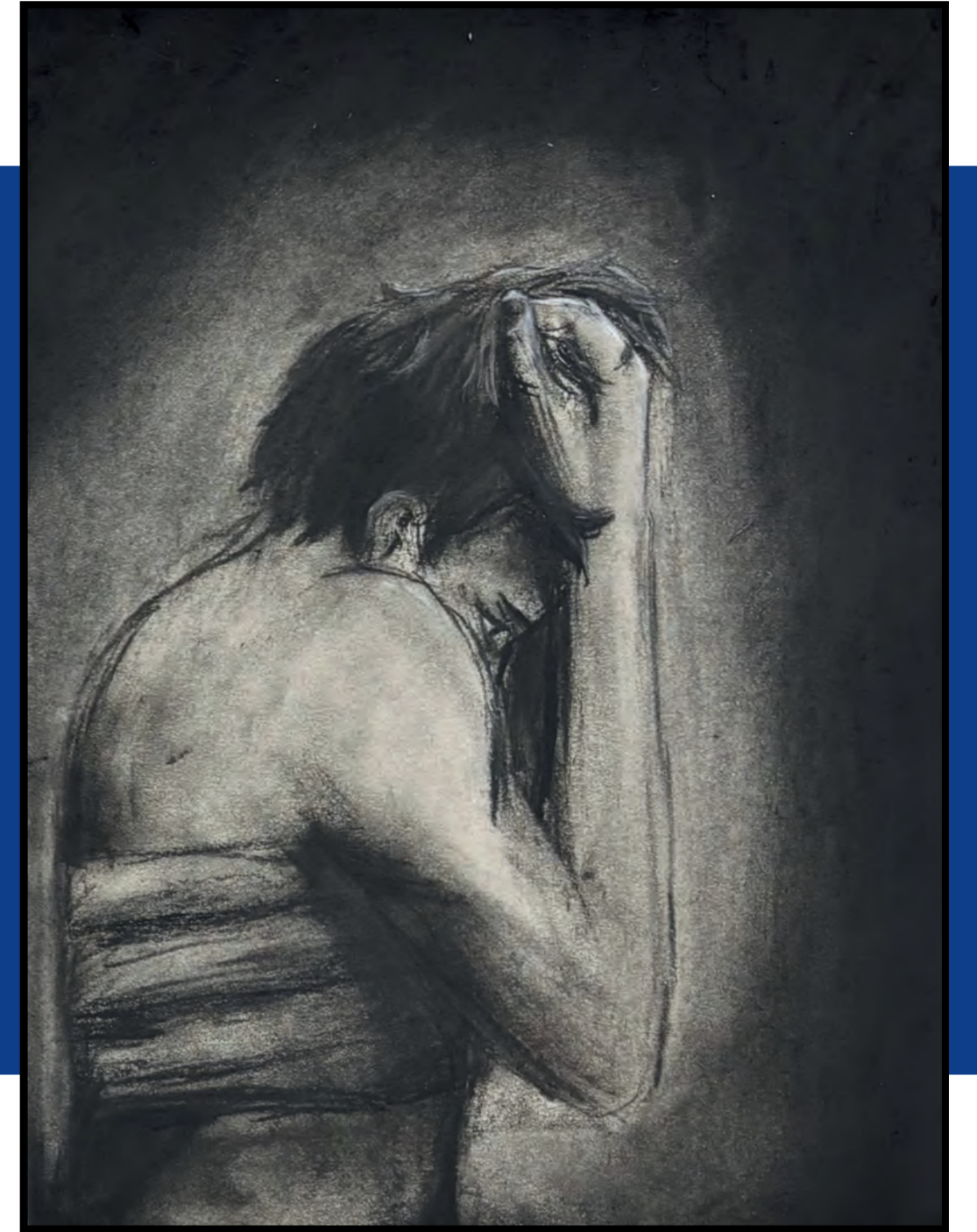
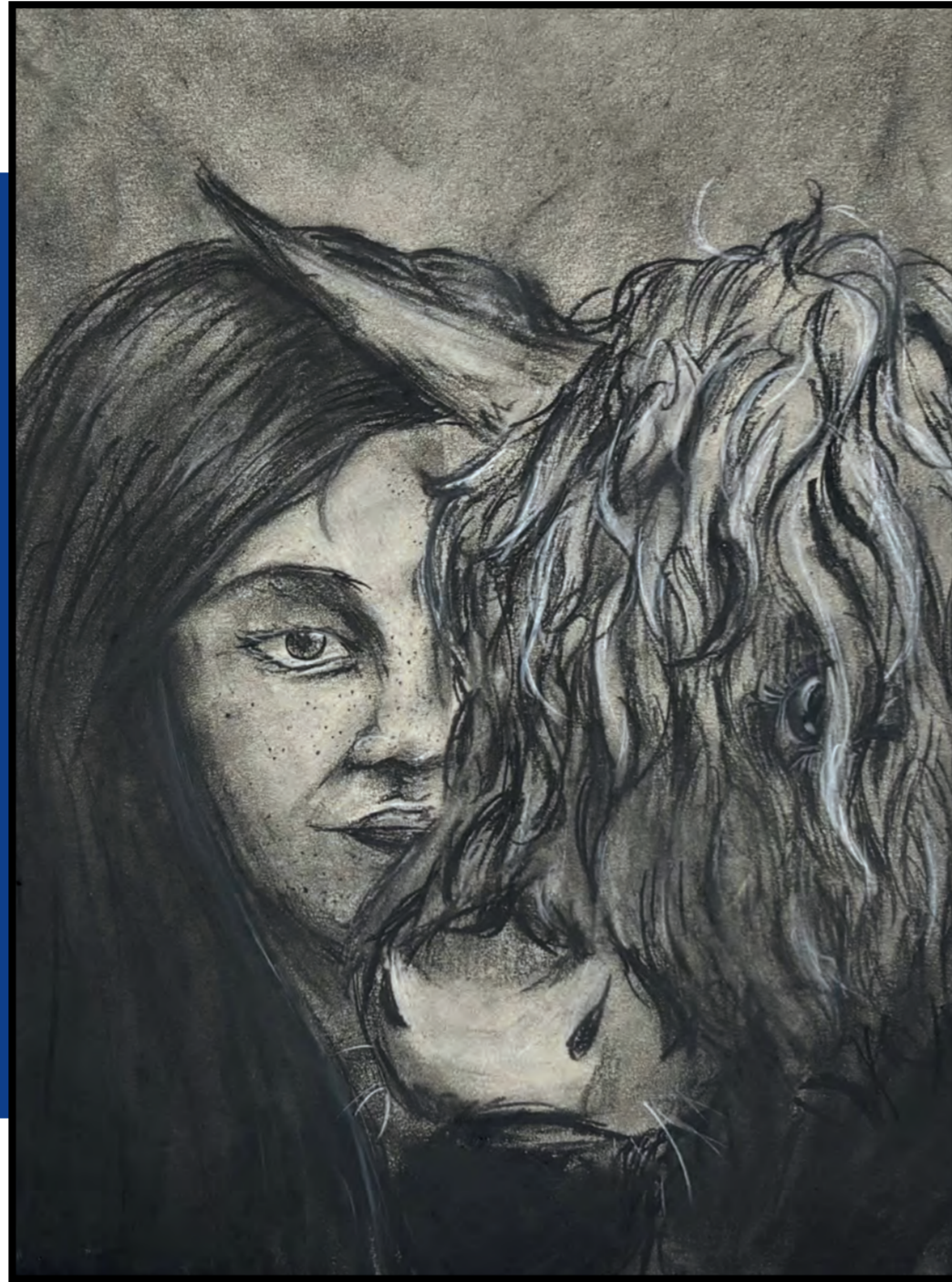
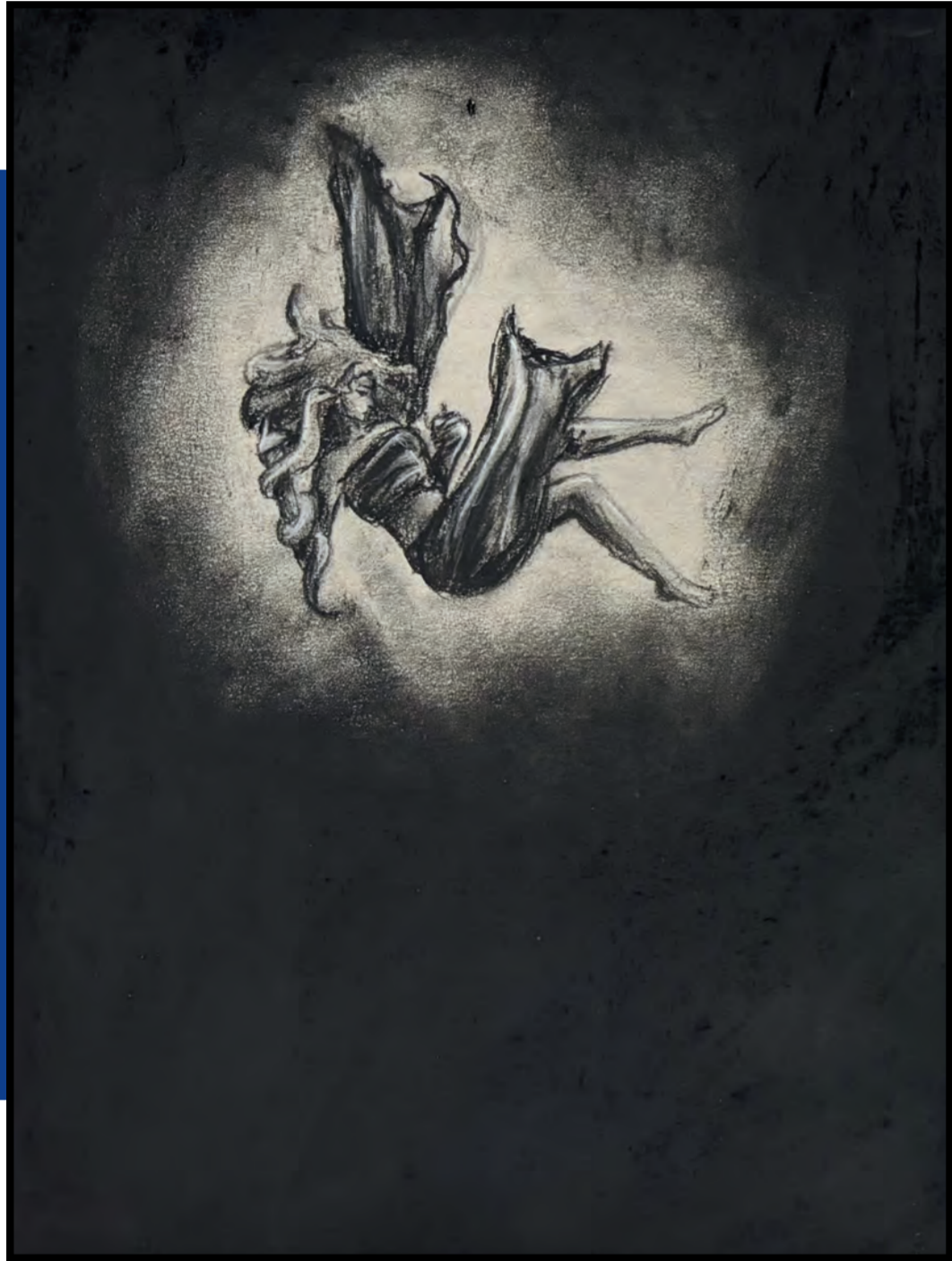


GRIEF A THOUSAND WAYS



IVAN

(he/him)

The inspiration behind this artwork was to show how different forms of grief are felt. Loss of someone you love, loss of control, and loss of self. I feel that this collection shows this well.

The main focus of this collection was to encompass different feelings of grief and loss. The piece I feel shows this the best is the one in the middle. This portrait honors a family member I lost recently to brain cancer as well as one of her favorite animals, a highland cow. I watched as many of my family members fell apart after her loss and also during her cancer. The kind of brain cancer she had is terminal for anyone that is suffering from it, so it hurt even more knowing there was no cure to ever come. To me grief isn't just physically losing a person, but can also be felt when losing something material or spiritual. The piece on the left is of Eve with the apple from the Bible. It's meant to symbolize the loss of innocence and the grief that many women feel when they grow up and have to learn to face the real world of suffering. The snake is whispering into her ear telling her to take a bite, knowing what she'll lose, but also what she may gain. The last piece, the one on the right, is of a man who is transgender. He is meant to be shown feeling immense turmoil and grief for the loss of respect and also grieving the body he will never have. This one resonates the most with me as I also identify as transgender and feel this on a daily basis.

