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## Sheltered

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I stand outside, wondering what led me here. Deep down I know it was my choices. Yet here I stand with many others who have chosen the life I have, a life we are not a part of; a life of regret, denial and isolation. We all have our crosses to bear but in this case we chose to opt out. Not alive but not dead, we live in limbo. waiting for our lives to change but not willing to change ourselves. I walk inside with the other people feeling I do not belong, but I do. Why else would I be here? Paying for the mistakes I've made, I sleep on the floor with people I've never met. I sleep with one eye open and one arm over my belongings. I am afraid for myself, wondering 'why me?' Denial...I know why, but I choose not to admit that I am the problem. Worthless, shameful, scared. I am surrounded by people with the same fate and I have never felt so alone. One day I will feel better, one day I will find happiness and right the wrongs in my life. That day is not today, yet that small grain of hope keeps me alive, fighting until the very end.

