

鳥 (Tori)

Isabella Tan

Isabella Tan is an undergraduate at the University of North Texas, double majoring in Studio Art with a Concentration in Drawing and Painting and in Japanese with a minor in Chinese. She has explored different approaches, such as painting, drawing, and printmaking in illustrative works. Her work has been exhibited at Cora Stafford Gallery, College of Visual Arts & Design, and Greater Denton Arts Council's Patterson-Appleton Arts Center in Denton, Texas. Her work 鳥 (Tori) was published in a collection of comics 燃え尽き症候群 Burnout Syndrome, in 2022 by Kansai Gaidai University.



鳥 (Tori), inspired by Kazuo Ishiguro's *Never Let Me Go* and Taizan 5's *Takopi's Original Sin*, portrays a dystopian system through a child's perspective. Its title comes from the association of the protagonist's relationship with the environment she lives in. The purpose of this work is to question the value of life through the protagonist's letter to her mother. This 8-page manga consists of manga drawing elements, such as *kake* (shadow), *koma* (panel), character art, etc., with traditional manga drawing materials, such as G-pen, Maru-pen, and *amiten* (screen tone).