

The Ruler

By Charlette Hwang

I did not realize that length was everything.

Until I came out as trans.

Length is what defines your being.

From shortness of the shorts that I'm wearing

To the fragility of the nails on my hands

I did not realize that length was everything.

Your hair had better be flowing

Your lashes better look like fans

Length is what defines your being.

Your waist size means that you shouldn't be eating

Shaving your body hair better be in your plans

You need to realize that length is everything.

These shoes mean I had to give up standing

Yet I still cannot avoid everyone's scans

Length is what defines my being.

To not care about length, I would do anything

But then everyone sees my body as a man's

I realize that length is everything.

Length is what defines my being.