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**A-S 285-002**

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***“The Guy of My Dreams” Artist Statement***

But what are dreams? Are they hidden messages? Such questions always wander through my mind. Being a fan of Freud, I always liked his approach to dreams. They reflect unconscious problems and thoughts. When I was a little girl, I had a recurring nightmare that I would experience whenever I was feeling overwhelmed and lonely. It would always start with a scary-looking figure lingering around my house and mocking me. In a way, he was slowly replacing me and making me invisible. I would scream and shout in my dream, but no one would hear me. For this project, I decided to bring my nightmare into reality.

I used color well in this project by emphasizing the subject in color with a contrasting background in black and white. The use of value is represented with the different light sources, such as clamp lights as well as environmental lights. Value and emphasis helped in creating the mood of horror. Even though I had many strengths in this project, there were also improvements that could have been done. I did struggle with being out of focus because of the low lighting conditions. To improve this, I could increase my ISO.

Overall, I am satisfied with this body of work. The horror surrealism aspect I wanted to project to my audience is clearly shown. The new masking technique I learned to keep the figure's color worked perfectly. The reason I chose to create this project is not because of an artist, but a psychologist, Sigmund Freud. He had a compelling theory about dreams that he shared with the world. Through my art, I want to do the same. I am asking the viewers to think about the meaning behind dreams. I am asking the viewers to dig deeper in their minds and contemplate this strange life we all live in.