

## Alexiss Bedminster

In the concealed corridors of society, where the resonance of iron doors echoes against shattered dreams, "Beyond the Bars" (working title) immerses itself in the harsh reality of lives entwined with the carceral system, including Alexiss Bedminster's proximity to incarceration. Hovering on the brink of confinement, Alexiss witnessed the struggles of loved ones—a mother, brother, lover, and child—navigating a world quick to judge and slow to forgive. This multi-disciplinary project, incorporating photography, collage, and sculpture, peels back layers of societal prejudice, unveiling the essence of individuals labeled by their mistakes. Focused on bittersweet reunions, incarcerated resilience, and enduring love, it confronts the uncomfortable truths of life post-conviction, challenging preconceptions, and demanding acknowledgment of shared humanity. More than documentation, this project is a personal exploration into Alexiss's ties with the incarcerated, revealing profound impacts on her and her relationships, using various mediums to amplify the depth and complexity of these narratives.

Alexiss Bedminster, born on August 31, 1998, in Bury St. Edmunds, UK, moved to the States at a young age. Landing in Omaha, Nebraska, where she spent her adolescence and eventually graduated from Omaha North High in 2016. Commencing her artistic journey with a focus on ceramics, she has since diversified her practice to encompass analog and digital photography, sculpture, and installation, delving into the realms of her personal experiences. Her work intricately weaves together past and present, creating a tapestry that reflects the experiences that have shaped her identity. Currently a student at the University of Colorado Colorado Springs (UCCS), Alexiss is on track to graduate in May 2024 with a BA in Visual Arts. Her academic pursuits have been dedicated to honing her skills and expanding her artistic horizons. Now residing and creating in Colorado Springs, Colorado, she continues to draw inspiration from her surroundings. Utilizing diverse mediums to articulate the intricacies of her evolving artistic narrative, Alexiss Bedminster's work serves as a visual exploration of both her individual journey and the collective human experience, intertwining past and present to offer an open reflection on the complexities of life.

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