The Undead Past

My inspiration for this piece is my past; however, I’m sure anyone can relate. The zombie trapped in the mirror are the troubles I once faced. They’re something I simply cannot forget, something that will always be a part of me. I purposely made the zombie look the way she is, because even though she represents my troubling past, she’s not some ugly creature. Many of us do not know of to recover from something that has troubled us for so long. Over the years, I’ve slowly learned to embrace my past. She is beautiful. She is what made me who I am today.

I begin any digital art piece by simply sketching it out on paper, followed by scanning it on a flash drive. I then upload it onto my computer and start the digital-art process. I mainly use Corel Painter Essentials 4, because using it is fairly simple and it’s equivalent to drawing on a piece of paper. Once the drawing is uploaded, I use the fine point marker that is available on the program and I begin to trace my original drawing. After the outlining process is complete, I began choosing my color scheme. I used the airbrush to quickly fill in the blanks, for example, her face, hair, and clothing. When you use the airbrush, its edges are not clean, so then I used the fine point marker again to clean up the edges (I constantly switched between the airbrush and the fine point marker). After I completed coloring her in, I did not yet draw the mirror portion of the piece. In fact, the original piece was just the zombie itself. I used the airbrush with various blues to create the illusion of her being trapped inside the mirror, followed by making the actual border of the mirror. I’m not a fan of plain white backgrounds, so I used the brush and reduced its opacity and sprayed various purples and blues as the background.