## 1 Can't Stay

By Juliana Dornellas

I can't stay

It's been so long,
I had to grab a pen,
and start again
before my soul overflows with sentiments.
Writing is my escape.
Memories are the floor I step on
and my floating way through life.

Following mundane days.

Answering calls.

Waiting for the lights to be switched off, so my own lights can be turned on.



Photograph by Diane Liguori

And I can finally dance.

In this semi-real place

where I hide and watch the rain

Sometimes I go outside

barefoot.

Hues and black and white.

Sometimes I drink my coffee quietly

and watch

what is not there.

I have to go back now

to the box

to nothing

to grey

to existence.

Wait for me, my place.

I shall return to breathe,

to be,

to justify living.