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my 256th picture day

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my 256th picture day

you think that i enjoy calling you superstar, princess, or petunia when everyone is a superstar, princess, or petunia? or that i enjoy tilting and turning your little head to get it at just the right angle? how much patience does it require to sit still for fifteen seconds?

but i have almost forgotten...

your fifteen seconds lasts a day. you probably want your picture to be taken and over with. well i am over with so don't hurry the time it takes to capture you picture perfect. so perfect there upon that box, an unblemished history, an ability to fly kites believing they can never go high enough, the only monsters you know are the ones under your bed, candy still gives you that sugar high, the clouds in your sky are dragons and steamboats, the moving gleam of curiosity and uninhibited emotion that i caught in your eye before you left the rushed excited happy giddy chatter with your friends that are still waiting on line. torn from your companions, you dread this one picturetry taking this picture over and over and over

again. they're all the same.

if you can't hold that forced smile for a couple moments now, how will you be able to plaster it on for days weeks months years at a time?

as the light flashes ensuring that your face will be frozen forever, perhaps you'd like to take a peek and look through my lens.

by Claudine Mead