What Do You See When You Look At Me

When you look at me what do you see
Because I know you don’t see the pain I’ve felt growing up in the streets
When you look at me do you see the real me
Or the person I pretend to be
Or the person people say I am who hate on me
When you look at me do you see the change
Or do you see the old Dwayne
Keep it real with me
And tell me when you look at me
What do you see
Cause I know you don’t see the trust issues I have from people who
have lied to me
Especially those people who said they loved me and cared about me
And I know you don’t see the things I’ve been through and how strong I
I’ve had to be
Do you see all the scares on me from running from the police
And do you see the bags under my eyes from staying up days with no sleep
Or when you look in my eyes do you see the redness from crying
until I was weak
I just pray that when I die my soul the lord will keep
But all I want to know is when you look at me what do you see

What Do You See When You Look At Me: A poem written by a young man who received services in Cleveland Christian Home’s Shelter Care Program @2017

Background artwork by a child who received treatment from Cleveland Christian Home