

## **Inherent Goodness**

Mixed

**\$145**

### **Glenda Goodrich**

#### **Artist's Statement**

##### My Inspiration

Jade's art plays a crucial role in *Piecing Me Together*. It becomes a metaphor that reflects her journey throughout the story. She made beauty out of everyday things, candy wrappers, newspaper, receipts, magazines. She cut and tore, arranged and rearranged, and morphed garbage into something new, something beautiful. At the end of the novel Jade makes this beautiful revelation about herself: Real life reflects a weaving of disparate parts of people, backgrounds and experiences to shape a beautifully collaged whole.

I chose to work the concept of inherent goodness in my art piece to emphasize the idea that I believe people are good at the core. The silhouetted African woman represents the pure inherent beauty of Jade and Maxine. The mosaic of tissue pieces in autumn colors around the figure represents the layers we sometimes need to let go of in order to get back to our inherent goodness. The butterflies carry the energy of transformation (change) and shapeshifting. It is the symbol of the Soul. Butterflies gather around this woman and invite her to shed her layers of defense and return to the inherent goodness that she is.

##### My Process

My process for creating this piece started with a background of gold paint onto which I placed random pieces of tissue. The tissue pieces represent falling leaves, so I chose autumn tones of yellow, gold, orange, red and brown. I sketched the silhouette and butterflies onto white paper, cut them out, and traced them onto the background with a stabilo pencil. I then painted her a beautiful dark chocolate brown – a woman of rich deep color. The textured areas of her hair, collar and skirt were made by spreading clear bead gel through a stencil that I hand cut to mirror the shapes of the tissue mosaic background. It was a happy surprise that some of the brighter tissue colors bled through the brown paint and came up into the clear bead gel.

#### **Bio**

The natural world is where GG finds her inspiration to create. The forest floor, birds and dragonflies, shadowy figures under a full moon, layered geological rock formations. She notices the repeated patterns and paradoxical variety in trees, landscapes and all of nature. And that is precisely what she brings to her richly layered mixed media collages.

Born in the Midwest and raised in California, GG relocated to Oregon in 1979 and began actively pursuing her inherent artistic talents. She is a self-taught artist who has shown her work in several local galleries and shows. Her popular colorful work combines a light-hearted spirit of expression with the depth of ancestral connections in beautifully executed composition and design.

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