I see you by A. Ellie Mitchell (Saginaw Ojibwe; Eagle Clan)

I see the pain in your eyes, in your movements. I hear it in your voice, in your words.

The uncertainty, the silence, the loss, the grief, the pressures from a hostile reality. Your pain is valid.

But in your eyes, and in your movements, I also see your strength. I see your ability, I see your desire for a healthier community.

In your voice, and in your words, I hear your thirst for your language, I hear the songs and prayers of the ancestors, I hear your love for the community.

I will keep dancing for you, praying for you, fighting for you, crafting words to help you cry and laugh, supporting you, cheering you, loving you.

I will do what I can for you. Please, do what you can for me. Together, we can foster healing in the community.

June 13, 2021 <u>aelliemitchell.com/i-see-you</u> Original artwork by <u>Elizabeth LaPensée</u>

