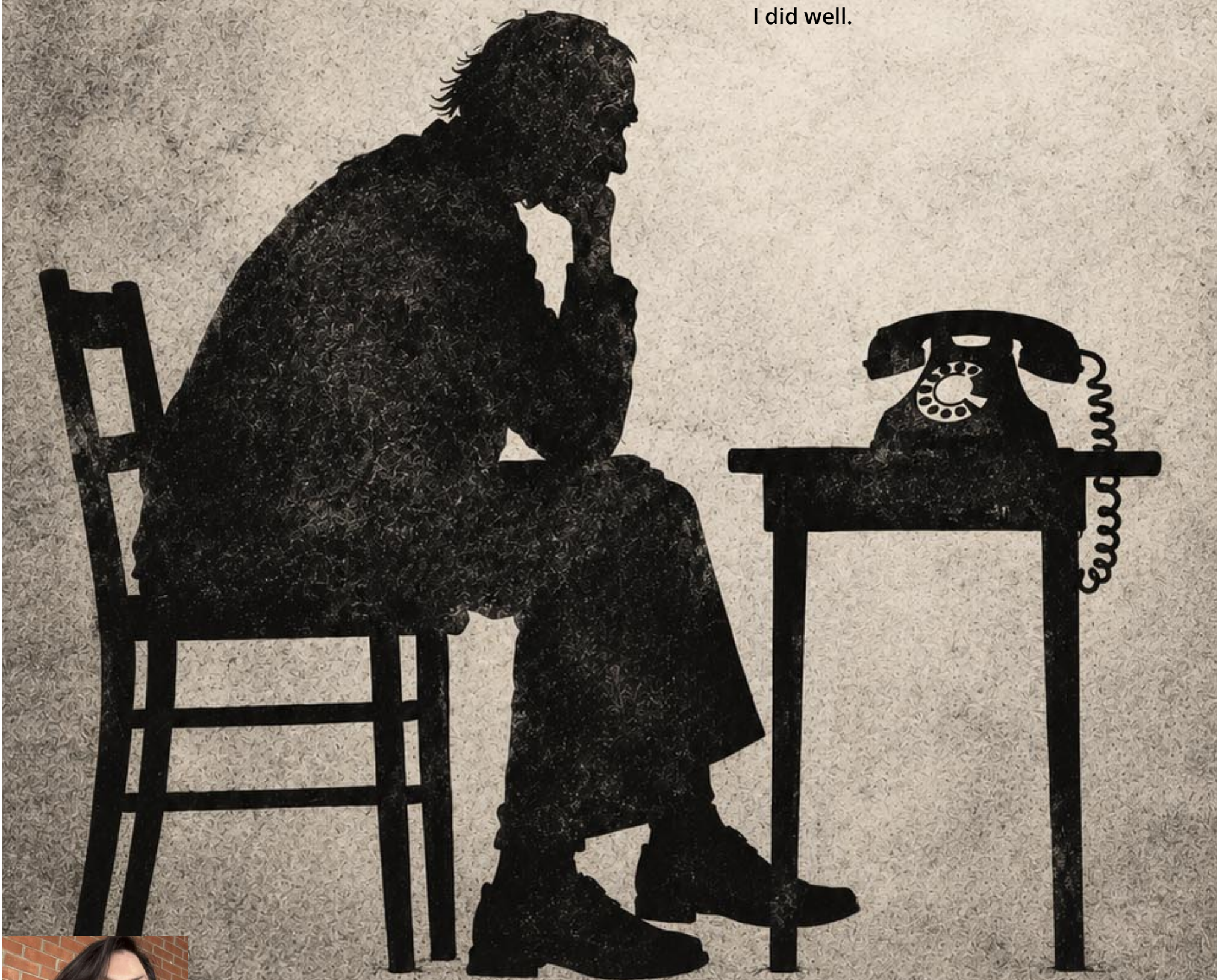
Dead Grammar

Two days before Father's Day
my dad waits by the phone,
a sack of bony ash. There is
no remedy for this fact,
no pantomime of amends.

I tried hard to be his daughter,
paid a kiln to mother him in flame.
You did good! he'd likely say.

I did well.



Rachel Camacho (McKibbens)

Rachel Camacho (McKibbens) is a poet, playwright, organizer and two-time New York Foundation for the Arts poetry fellow. She is the author of three critically acclaimed books of poetry, blud, Pink Elephant and Into the Dark & Emptying Field. In 2012, McKibbens founded The Pink Door Writing Retreat, an annual intensive held exclusively for non-men writers of color. In 2022, McKibbens was the subject of the podcast We Were Three, from the producers of Serial. She believes Palestine will be free in her lifetime.

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