My Story in Permanence

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I have a great need,
a desire to mark and color my skin with my story.
To tattoo-
Perhaps around my ankle,
perhaps around my heart,
the names and symbols of all of my losses:
My grandmother, my father, my uncle, my Steffie and today, my little one, Bea.
To move all of my losses from their home inside of me to somewhere else,
So that the world can see all of those that were loved and lost by me.
To move the residue of grief to a different point.
And maybe then, it can stop digesting me.
Perhaps people will inquire about the symbols that encircle me and I will tell them,
they are a brand left by my departed.
A brand so that I may never forget and that I may speak with a clear conscience,
without being fearful that I have said too much or spoken too often
about those now gone.
And as time passes, I will add to the story of my life and my departed.
Their names in permanence on me.
Those will be the notes to my father,
Those will be a testament to my grandmother
And those will be the unspoken words of my little one, Bea.

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