



Understand

May 2018

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www.qwf.org/programs/wic

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SR

Ask if my country is egalitarian
ask what should that mean
we have so many things to live up to

I don't want to live in a racist country
my home isn't safe

I want to be free
like an eagle, beautiful,
striking.

Let us not be scared of prudes
It's hard to live as a woman
let us live our life
because the world is cruel.

-K. K.

I used to feel like the lemons life gave you

I felt like the bottomless pit

I was an oceanless wave

Purpose forgotten, white lies like cotton

poor little thing.

pretty little thing.

Please, take me under your wing.

No, I am like a raindrop in the desert.

I am like ponyboy, golden.

-L.

A Sad Cry

Among the spring flowers

I am the lonely dandelion

Among the winter sky

I am the dreamy pink lie

Between the lines is a soft cry

of wanting you by my side

Among you is the other people

that have died

I am the one who waits

for the morning sun to rise

B-L.

For Those Like Me

For those like me who've lived in a home
where your mind couldn't roam
and you're constantly feeling alone
every time you pick up the phone
you don't know if that loud white man
will throw you
nightfall comes and you don't know
where to go
In the clouds peaceful and blue
there's always someone signing
a harmony for you
it's going to be alright
quiet waters singing at night
telling you it's going to be alright
you look at the stars shining bright
all your worries die in the night.

I look up at our pictures wondering
why they hit us in the night
you lied by my side while I cried
you held me until my fear died.

You died in the night time
I never got to say goodbye
you were my only grandmother
that I trusted with my life
you made my life worth the time
I loved when we sat in the sunlight.

B-L.

I can't stop relying on you
I can't stop thinking about you
Constantly wondering whether you're ok
Or not whether you need to talk

I need you to tell me you'll never leave me
When I say I need you,
you better believe me.

I can't do it, I miss seeing you
Without you, I'm sick

I never got to say goodbye
I should've called at least to say
What I've been wanting to since I was five
You still remain on my mind.

B-L.

My life is like a connect the dots
You're half the spots
That ruin all my thoughts
You're the one that makes me feel lost

I've told you a lot of things
That I thought I wasn't supposed to
But you understand the struggles
I go through

Y'all think that me being up here
Doesn't do any harm
But it's like y'all is tearing my arm

I went to see a movie with you
Which was really fun
Cuz it was one on one

I wish it didn't have to
End with you tucking me in bed
You're the only one who understands
What's going on in my mind

B-L.

After a long day
When my heart just blows away,
from the wrath
of the boulders, blocking my path.
In the stillness of the night,
When I don't pretend to be all right
I let the fears fill my mind,
they tend to make me blind,
with the tears filled in my eyes,
I cry into the night..
I cry into the night....

~K.

I am not unstable.

I am just numb.

For the first time I feel so stable.

For the first time it's all just done.

I am finally at peace.

It's the silence that overwhelms me.

Don't call it dark.

It's brighter than ever.

Maybe I am seeing the light at the end of the tunnel,
and I don't mean to look away...

I am deaf.

I am dumb.

I only see moving lips,
and a muffled hum taking me to the right place.

~K.

There's a spark in your eyes.
There's a spark in your smile.
There's a spark in everything in you I see,
but that spark is a simple illusion in me.

~K.

I am an eraser.
You call me to erase your failures.
Your mistakes is my correction,
to make room for progression.
You only call me when you need me.

~K.

Little heart,
pick up the pieces of shattered love,
don't be afraid to restart.

~K.

Torn between two.
At the end of the day who would YOU follow?
The ONE whom YOU love?
Or the ONE who loves YOU?
She goes or I go,
one asked in despair.
But loving AND leaving is ALWAYS UNFAIR.

~K.

Why argue when you know you're wrong?
Why carry the weight so long
for no reason?
Why stress not only the person you're talking to
but yourself?
Why not save your energy
and put the work on a shelf instead of
trying to prove nothing?

~K.

Nothing they do makes any sense,
and I sit there amused by what they are doing.
My mind set is at a whole different set of frequency
which doesn't match theirs.
I start questioning everyone's existence.
I start questioning my own.

~K.

How do I answer that?

I don't know.

It's like you question the unquestionable,
and expect ME to know.

Is it to prove something?

Is it a test?

I feel like I missed something..

Or is my mind just a mess?

It's like you enjoy me being confused.

Fuck with my mind so you can be amused.

What if I answer you with all of this just to make you see.

I bet you'll say the same and be pissed

Like me.

~K.

I wear the mask of CONTENTMENT
It hides the scars and RESENTMENT,
and all my battles with RELENTMENT.
They say be the picture of AMENDMENT.
They say do not be REPENDENT.
It'll soon be REMNANT.
I wear the mask of ABSENTMENT.
I show ASSENTMENT to CONDENCEMENT.
I choose to be INDEPENDENT.

~K.

I'm from a street where nobody knows me.
I'm from a city where there's no one to love me.
I'm from a long line of people who hurt me.
I'm from confusion about where I'm supposed to be.

I wear the mask of a happy, hyper girl
it hides all of my anger and fears
I've been scared since 1st grade

Cold as my mother
strong as my grandmother
as good as my big brother
as bright as a sunflower
as busy as a bambi
calm as a flower
as clean as a baby
cool as Stephen Curry

I don't know what to do
that will make the thought of you go away
I always lay awake ashamed
that I will never get to say your
name.

B-L.

I don't know what to do anymore
I have so much on my mind.
I don't wanna eat anymore
I don't wanna sleep in the dark
That's when the monsters come out and tear me apart.

What would it mean if I died
in my dream?
You lied by my side
what would you do if you were still alive?
It feels like it's a lie
that you're not here by my side
instead, you're in the sky
I never got to say goodbye

B-L.

Change

They say change is ok

I'm always switchin' lanes

I'm tired of flipping the page.

B-L.

The System

The system always messes with my head
I'm tired of shedding these tears
it's not like y'all ever even hear
Y'all is tearing me
but y'all is too dumb to see
what I need
what's best for me.

I need you to listen to me
stop trying to figure out why
I'm trying to break free
from that shell that's been holding me
in the sea with my enemy.

Y'all is hurting my head
can't even go play basketball with my friends
sometimes I just want to put
a bullet through my head

I can't even get an Amen
cuz y'all always thinking ahead
I can't go home to my own bed
I may as well go live in a shed
or even a tent.

B-L.

I WEAR THE MASK OF THE FAKE SMILE
IT HIDES MY SADNESS
I`VE BEEN THROUGH A LOT OF BULLSHIT
BE THE PERSON WITH A BIG HEART
THEY SAY I AM A ROBOT
WHEN I CAN BREATHE LIKE A HUMAN

I WEAR THE MASK OF A SAD/HAPPY FACE
I SHOW MY SMILE AND MY FACE TO PEOPLE
I CHOOSE TO BE HUMAN BUT I WISH I DIDN`T EXIST

~A. A.

IF I COULD CHOOSE, I WOULD CHOOSE
TO BE IN THE OCEAN.

WHEN IM FROM THE OCEAN,

I WOULD WANT TO BE IN THE SKY
WHEN IM IN THE SKY, I`LL SEE
EVERYTHING IN THE WORLD,
AND THEN I`LL WANT TO BE NEITHER
ON LAND NOR THE OCEAN NOR
THE SKY.

BUT SOMEWHERE I CAN TRULY
BE HAPPY.

~A. A.

JUST BECAUSE I`M COZY
DOEN`T MEAN I`M COMFORTABLE
JUST BECAUSE I AM A HELPER
DOEN`T MEAN I`M A HATER
I COME FROM GOERGE RIVER
BUT THAT DOEN`T MEAN IM NOT AT HOME
IN THE CITY
I COME FROM KANGIQSUALUJJUAQ
(BUT THAT DOEN`T MEAN
THE STOP SIGNS ARE DIFFERENT)
JUST BECAUSE I`M CALM
DOEN`T MEAN I`M HARMONY

~A. A.

WHAT WOULD IT MEAN TO BE A GIRL THAT GETS SAD
IN A DARK PLACE OR
WHEN WE`RE WALKING
AND THINKING ABOUT THE
PAST.

YOU WERE THINKING ABOUT THE
PAST WHEN I WAS THINKING TOO

WHAT WOULD YOU DO
IF YOU WERE THINKING THAT YOU`RE DYING
ALONE AND NOBODY SAW YOU

IT FEELS LIKE SOMEONE WILL
SEE YOU BUT THEY WON`T

~A. A.

SO GUY`S I DROPPED MY LIFE JUST BECAUSE
I AM NOT AT HOME WHERE I BELONG
BUT I MAKE DECISIONS TO BE HERE
CAUSE I WAS DOING STUPID THINGS
OR DON`T GO TO SCHOOL
AND NOT LISTENING TO MY FAMILY`S + I`M PRETTY
FUCKED UP NOW
IF I EVER GO BACK HERE I`LL BE MORE FUCKED UP

~A. A.

Just because I love you

Doesn't mean I forgive you

Just because I box

Doesn't mean I'll fight for you

Just because I run

Doesn't mean I'll chase you

-S.

You switched up like everyone
Never knowing who won
Disappointment never lies
You never seem to hear my cries
Even when I need you beside
You seem to think everything's fine
Little do you know I don't have time
You say you care about me
But you don't dare to show me
Someone's gotta say it
You fucked up, why don't you admit it
What kind of person leaves a child behind?
How does a heart like yours lie
To a heart like mine
The emptiness inside
You never arrived.
-S.

What Would It Mean

What would it mean to die

In a place they don't hear your cries

You know in that moment you're gone

It feels like you'll never see dawn

Changing what your heart desires

Your life blows up like fire

New and old words fall and crash

Change it but it will never last

To stand, but never stay still

-S.

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