

~~Some things I heard poets say in the last year and a half~~

~~Some things I saw poets say in online videos in the last year and a half~~

Some things I watched poets say in online videos in the last year and a half while sitting at home in Oakland

“My name is Khaiya Martinez and I am a black poet who will not remain silent while this nation kills black people.”

— Khaiya Martinez

“My name is Robyne Walker Murphy and I am a black artist who will not remain silent while this nation murders black people.”

— Robyne Walker Murphy

“My name is Briana Alliseo and I am a black poet that will not remain silent while this nation murders black people.”

— Briana Alliseo

“My name is Antoinette Brim, and I am a black poet who will not remain silent while the murder of black people goes unprosecuted. I have a right to be angry. We should all be angry.”

— Antoinette Brim

“My name is Cydney Gray and I am a black artist who will not remain silent while this nation murders black people.”

— Cydney Gray

“My name is Jonathan Moody. I am a black poet and I will not remain silent while this nation continues to murder black people. I have every right to be angry, I have every right to be upset, I have every right to mourn, I have every right to be fearful for our children of color, especially my son, Avery Langston.”

— Jonathan Moody

“My name is SaRoya Marsh. I am a black poet who will not remain silent while this nation continues to murder black people. I have a right to be angry.”

— SaRoya Marsh

“My name is Makalani Bandele. I am a black poet who will not remain silent while the United States of America sponsors terrorism against black people and murders black bodies. I have a right to be angry.”

— Makalani Bandele

“My name is Tene. I am a black poet who will not remain silent while this nation kills black people. I have a right to be angry.”

— Tene

“My name is Jonterri Gadson. I am a black poet who will not remain silent while this nation murders black people. I have a right to be angry.”

— Jonterri Gadson

“S’up, y’all. My name is Quraysh Ali Lansana. I have been a black poet for a half a century. I have never been silent. I will not be silent, while this nation continues to murder my sons, my daughters, my cousins, my aunties, my uncles, my family. I have been angry a long fucking time.”

— Quraysh Ali Lansana

“My name is Cornelius Eady. I am a black poet who refuses to be silent. I have a right to be angry.”

— Cornelius Eady

“My name is Bianca Spriggs. I am a black poet who will not remain silent while this nation murders black people. I have a right to be angry.”

— Bianca Spriggs

“My name is Ruth Ellen Kocher. I am black and I am a poet and I can’t stand by while this nation murders black people. I have a right to be angry.”

— Ruth Ellen Kocher

“My name is Lyrae Van Clief-Stefanon. I am a black poet who will not remain silent while this nation murders black people.”

— Lyrae Van Clief-Stefanon

“My name is Mahogany L. Browne and I am a black poet. I refuse to remain silent while this nation murders black people. I have a right to be angry.”

— Mahogany L. Browne

“My name is Ricardo Nazario y Colón. I am a black Puerto Rican poet who will not remain silent while this nation murders black people. I have a right to be angry.”

— Ricardo Nazario y Colón

“My name is Francine J. Harris. I am a black poet who will not remain silent while this nation continues to murder black people. I have a right to be angry.”

— Francine J. Harris

“My name is B. Kelly Norman Ellis. I am black and I am poet and I will not remain silent while this nation murders black people. I have a right to be angry.”

— B. Kelly Norman Ellis

“My name is Marjua Estevez and I am a black poet who will not remain silent while this nation murders black people. I have a right to be angry.”

— Marjua Estevez

“My name is Sha Cage and I am a black artist, activist, and mother who will not remain silent while this nation murders black people. I have the right to be angry.”

— Sha Cage

“My name is Breena Clarke. I am a black poet and I cannot remain silent while our nation condones the murder of unarmed black people. I have a right to be angry.”

— Breena Clarke

“My name is Kenyatta Rogers. I am a black poet and I will not silent while this nation murders black people. I have a right to be angry.”

— Kenyatta Rogers

“Um, I give thanks for being here tonight, I give thanks for being African, I give thanks for being in a community that’s artistic and literary. My name is Ugochi Nwaogwugwu. I am a black poet. I will not be silent while this nation murders black people. I have a right to be angry.”

— Ugochi Nwaogwugwu

“All these beautiful people. I’m gonna make my own poem. But first I’ll say my name is Maya Marshall. I am a black poet who will not be silent while this nation murders black people. I have a right to be angry.”

— Maya Marshall

“My name is Triple Blak, I am a black poet. I will not remain silent while this nation murders my black people and I have a right to be angry.”

— Triple Blak

“My name is Anastacia Renee and I am a black poet who will not remain silent while this nation murders black people. I got a right to be angry.”

— Anastacia Renee

“My name is Colena Corbett and I am a black poet who will not remain silent while this nation murders black and brown bodies. I have a right to be angry, and as a mother, a sister, a cousin, a wife, an auntie, a friend, I stand in support of this movement.”

— Colena Corbett

“My name is Kyle Dargan and I am a poet who will not be silent while this nation murders my people, who are also its people. I have a right to be angry, and more importantly have a right to see political and economic retribution, and I hope we can all support those efforts when the time comes.”

— Kyle Dargan

“My name is Douglas Kearney. And I am a black poet who will not remain silent while this nation murders black people. I have a right to be angry.”

— Douglas Kearney

“My name is Anis Mojgani. I am a black poet who will not remain silent while my nation murders black people. I have a right to be angry.”

— Anis Mojgani

“My name is Camonghne Felix. And I am a black poet who refuses to be silent while this nation kills brown and black bodies.”

— Camonghne Felix

“My name is Glenis Redmond. And I just want to say, as a black poet during these times of killing of black people, I have a right to occupy my blackness fully. To own my grief, my anger, my sorrow, and my love. Of course I am thinking of Michael Brown and his family. I’m thinking of Trayvon Martin, I’m thinking of Emmett Till, of all the beautiful black boys and girls I work with on a daily basis across this country. We have a right to our feelings. This includes anger, this includes rage.”

— Glenis Redmond

“My name is Lolita Stuart White. I am a black poet who refuses to remain silent while this nation continues to murder black people. I have a right to be angry.”

— Lolita Stuart White

“My name is Khadijah Z. Ali-Coleman. I am a black poet and I have a right to be

angry. What is happening today is an atrocious tragedy, not just for our people but for our country.”

— Khadijah Z. Ali-Coleman

“My name is B. Sharise Moore and I am a black poet who will not remain silent while this nation murders black people. I have a right to be angry. Black people have a right to be angry.”

— B. Sharise Moore

“My name is Cheryl Clarke and I am a black poet and I refuse to be silent.”

— Cheryl Clarke