

I Get It

Karyn Williams - Poetry

I get it; I really do.

I believe All Lives Matter, too.

I'm saddened by the fact that people have died.

I'm frightened by the fact that cops lost their lives.

The justice system isn't providing justice.

Look at Hillary Clinton; she's not even in custody.

If you're rich or have power, you're destined to succeed,

While the 'poor folk' can barely afford their necessities.

If you're born in the system, or sell some dope to make money,

You'll get locked up, and be a prison fuck buddy.

But answer my question: have you ever walked in my shoes?

Been an African American or had your ancestor pay your dues?

Has society laughed at you because you hair comes out kinky

And tried to fit in, with a relaxer, which is quite stinky?

Has your grandma told you stories about her picking cotton?

Do you remember yet, or have you forgotten?

Our ancestors, tried to pave a way for us in society

To still have racism exist after all their rioting.
Has your boyfriend ever told you that his “friends” didn’t like you?
When finding out the color of his “boo”?
They had the audacity to ask him if he was a Nigger lover.
It took everything he had not to punch that sucker.
I get it; I really do.
I believe that black lives matter, too.

AUTHOR’S NOTE: To live in this world, among many racist individuals is frightening. I was in a newer church, and they did a meet and greet. You go around and shake everyone’s hand and introduce yourself. I walked up (in a line) to this older lady that was sitting down. She greeted the people in front of me and shook their hands. When I got to her she just frowned, then proceeded to grab my boyfriend’s hand and shake it. I was in disbelief and frustrated throughout the whole service. I haven’t been back to that church.

I know not everyone is racist or hates black people. I know that there are other nationalities that experience racial backlash as well. I know that not all cops are jerks and treat people like scum. I know there are plenty of people that want to make a difference in this world. I will accept everyone with an open heart and pray for the things that I cannot change. I will try and help those that are less fortunate. I will pray for those who serve and protect us and ask that God keeps them safe and hope they serve through him. I will also pray for those seeking unity in America among all races and ask that they do that in a way that creates peace, not violence.