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America the Free

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America the *Free*

Marijke Pieters-Kwiers

I live in Marin where people act so white and pristine
and they don't want affordable housing
because they think different races are unclean.
They will never actually say this though,
but it all comes down to racism, you know.
There are riots in Baltimore
we are almost at war
the war against racism and oppression
and I have this one question.
Why do you think it's okay
to judge other races in this way?
Just because their skin is not the color of yours
doesn't mean they are different at their cores.
Police officers in the street,
a dead man lying at their feet.
At first the protests were peaceful
but now it's unleashing the madness onto the people.
Oppressed for so long
only makes your hatred more strong.
Our flag flies high
it rests in the blue summer sky.
Now it is under someone's feet
laying ragged in the street.
This country was not build upon freedom
it's more of a white man's kingdom.
Enslaving other races
unfair court cases
sitting in the back of the bus
this history belongs to all of us.
We talk about terrorists in the Middle East
but the KKK is still alive and feeding like a beast.
We pretend it's not there
but really it's going on everywhere.
He was shot 8 times

he wasn't committing any huge crimes.
He was saying he couldn't breathe,
Gasping for air before he had to leave.
People blame the president for what they see
but really it starts with people like you and me.
We need to be the voice for this generation
that's why I write poems about the problems with our nation.

