

Caught Between Conflicting Causes

By Tashinga Matewe



Look at me and tell me what do you see,

Maybe, a young black girl, speaking
confident and clean?

Or maybe just a girl filled with aspirations
and dreams?

But in reality we all know that things aren't
quite as they seem.

See I'm also another young person who's
been affected by covid 19,

Confused about the future, past and all that
comes in-between

Also another young person affected by my
race that makes me, me

Living in a society that still puts negative
emphasis on the race of my skin.

Its crazy because this world got me feeling
like I can't win.

We're being made breathless by the
pandemic while our brother's necks were
crushed, being made breathless by a police
officer's knee.

We were forced to pick between our safety
from this infectious disease

and protesting against the plague of racial
inequalities.

We were told to reside inside our homes so
we could stay safe,

Yet we weren't told how to preserve our
mental states

We were facing Internal battles that we
have never faced,

None of which could simply be helped by
track and trace.

it's been hard, so so hard

Trying to adapt to this new abstract version
of normality.

We're living in a brand new reality,

Where we have to wear masks and socially
distance

While we speak facts and protest against
the social resistance

on our human rights.

The ones that are supposed to be there to
protect our human lives

And its hard to figure out what it is that is
right.

Should I Protest against the things that I
know aint right,

The type of things that have plagued our
human lives?

Or stay home in hopes that I'm part of the
fight,

To stop covid from taking any more
innocent lives.

There's so many different aspects to this
long unruly trial

It's physically and emotionally draining and
its been like this for a while

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But we need to stay positive and know that everything will end up alright

Its tough tryna get through this life but I know we wont go down without a fight

Even though it's like we've been trapped in a never ending game,

With thousands of levels that have been filled with everlasting pain,

We can get through this.

You see we're stronger than this, all of this

we need to get rid of the fogs of uncertainty and anxiety that have been all around us

and find a way to make real change about us.

It's all about trust

Trusting each other and trusting ourselves

We're one step closer to getting that long-awaited better health

That glorious mental wealth

And that spiritual healing that really could help.

so lets not put our heads down and decide that we're done

even though we're feeling like we're staring down the barrel of a gun

because we're more than that

We need to fight until we've won

And show the world what's right and let it be done,

This strange part of our lives has made true history,

but its time we break ourselves out of this misery.

We can be united through the pain,

and make sure it doesn't leave a tainted stain.

Together we stand, divided we fall

I just want to know if you're down for it all.

Tashinga Matewe ©
BASW England Annual Members Meeting
9 June 2021