

## **More Than**

More than vacant stares  
portraying how you feel sometimes,

more than the ghosts of your past  
trying to drag you back to hell,

more than your inability to  
love as much as you should,

you are (still) magnificent  
in every way  
you create infinity  
with your short-lasting  
breath.

## **Seven Times**

Seventeen times  
they lost their minds.

Seventy times seven times  
you pardoned them.

Seventeen times  
they tore you apart.

Seventy times seven times  
you were risen.

## **Zebra Cross**

Peace happens  
when black and white stripes  
painted on a grey road  
do not care  
that they are different.

Life happens  
when black and white stripes  
lay side by side,  
not leaving out the one  
with the most shoe prints.

Unfortunately,  
the world is not as simple  
as black and white.

No, wait, let me correct that.  
The world is not as simple  
to the blacks  
as it is to the whites.

At least not to  
Philando Castile,  
Miriam Carey,  
Eric Garner,  
Michael Brown,  
Yvette Smith,  
and many, many more.

Yet, those names are just  
the ones we see on the news.  
So, here's to the colored people  
who are not dead  
but have to live in pain  
simply because they were born  
the way they were born.

I am sorry that  
even until this day,  
the black stripes  
are being stepped on  
over and over again  
to prevent the whites  
from being stained.

## **Under Breath**

I hope you can hear

the way I  
still mutter

your name

under my breath

every time  
I tell you

that I'm fine.