

Milwaukee Succeeds 2020 Story

And then the child

— No bigger than the weight on her parents shoulders —
Asked her mother, *Is this how god troubled the water?*
Frozen...

The mother looked upon the face of her innocent child
And answered, *this water is still waiting.*

This is the story of Milwaukee Succeeds.

We have waded in many a water this city:

Some rain... Some river Some teardrop
And as the water pushed itself against our backs
— Like bulldozers Hoping to clear us out —
The current, **Never enough to wipe us completely.**

We imagined the year to be

Filled with the manifestations of a new beginning...
Children smiling at the sight of a dawn,
Much brighter than the skies that rained upon them.

But this year had ideas of its own.

We did not know that the water turned slowly
Into the hurricanes 2020 has shown itself to be
And **sometimes**, When asked how god intended to trouble this water,
We had no response for the curious child.

Instead we were met by storm front.

Concealing the laughter our hearts yearn to hear,
This year came **With bullhorns. Protests. Marches from the feet.**
Tired of being hung from micro-aggressive trees.

And still we waded.

Shifting our ideas to ride alongside the waves of this tempest,

We strengthened our position to be bold,
To bend the water by the work of our own finger tips.
Celebrated as racial justice took center stage around the world,
Reinforcing that we were on the right path:
To be the wildest dreams of our ancestors.

And thus came a new beginning:

A beginning much brighter than the one even we had hoped to see
And this time, When the child asked how god troubled the water
We were able to answer....

Through us.

Meet Milwaukee Poet **MICHEALA LACY**



Micheala Lacy is a 21 year old writer born in the city of Milwaukee.

Micheala started writing at the age of 11 and uses her passion as a platform to have conversations and make space for others voices to be heard.

Micheala is currently serving as a second year fellow at Public Allies, a Community Connector/Radio show host for Ex Fabula, and a co-hort member at Diverse and Resilient.

Her work has been published in many anthologies and will soon be available to purchase.

If you'd like to see her written works please feel free to follow her blog, Black Wounds and Aloe Vera.