

# Cultural Daily

Independent Voices, New Perspectives

## SURVEILLANCE: Standard American Similes With Interchangeable Blacks

Ashaki M. Jackson · Thursday, March 24th, 2016

```

The night is as black as skin    It falls slowly
    publicly like an { Eric }
Night hushes like { Jordan }
Sky creeps like a Black body's blood    Sleepless
birds enforce curfew
The people are as broken and exposed as { Emmett }
Aren't we?
Time drags like { James }    Look how
{ Otis } levitates full-faced and pale among the black
walnut trees
Stars surround as quickly as officers    Again night is dark
like Mother's throat
Her cry is black with grief
    We have
moved into metaphor

```

\*\*\*\*\*



For 10 weeks, we will feature one poem per week from *Surveillance*, the new chapbook available now from Writ Large Press. These poems by Ashaki M. Jackson explore police killings of Blacks captured on video and the public's consumption of these videos. Previous poems: [1](#), [2](#), [3](#), [4](#), [5](#), [6](#), [7](#), [8](#)

This entry was posted on Thursday, March 24th, 2016 at 5:06 am and is filed under [Poetry](#)  
 You can follow any responses to this entry through the [Comments \(RSS\)](#) feed. You can leave a response, or [trackback](#) from your own site.