

Cultural Daily

Independent Voices, New Perspectives

Syd Leilani: Two Poems

Syd Leilani · Tuesday, May 14th, 2019

Empty Promises

I have to move on from this constant race
 trying to change things that are no longer the case
 begging for those empty promises to one day be fulfilled
 it's not my fault, but it is, I gave my hope a thrill

it couldn't have just been a desired void
 an ongoing cringe my body was annoyed
 and once again on this day—you found a way
 a way so simple, you knew how to turn my life gray

I'm not sure if many cared about my education,
 yet everyone's waiting to attend my graduation
 so many damned the process
 moving their pawns as if we're playing chess to not progress

promises upon anticipation
 once was all right, yet look at the creation
 those empty promises going all through my head
 trying to remember the last thing you had said

I prayed and you stole
 you had strayed and I was left not, whole
 you require so very much from me
 yet the obvious, you cannot give to ye

maybe it was supposed to be like this,
 it just hurt me inside and makes it hard not to reminisce
 just let me open up a briefcase
 to try to embrace all the challenges that took place,

but would that help or will I end up needed an Advil?
 just donate my heart to Goodwill
 because whatever healing process I went through was destroyed
 and there was nothing I could have really avoid

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I Deserve

I deserve to live in society fear free
 in a society that's worth living for
 a place I know I can grow up not caring about who's there and what could happen
 a place where my ethnicity isn't a problem
 a place where I could be me

I deserve to walk the streets without being judged
 where the color of my skin doesn't decide the way I'm looked at
 where the brand of my shoes doesn't verify if I'm wealthy or not
 where the types of clothing don't justify my personality
 why can't I walk down the street feeling free?

I want to live in a utopia that's not perfect,
 but perfect enough for hate to not to exist
 where hate is a crime and love is a law
 where everyone minds their damn business

I deserve to live in a peaceful society
 where our leaders are actually leading us
 where they aren't really ruining us
 where I'm not ashamed to say,
 "oh yeah, he's my president"
 where that every time I hear his name,
 it's like "Oh man, what did he do again?"

I deserve to live a hopeful world
 where a sign of hope is blasted everywhere
 kindness is represented
 happiness is everywhere
 compassion is shown
 I deserve this
 just like anyone else
 we deserve a magnificent world

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