**I Am Kia Patman**

I amquiet and observant

I wonderif there will ever be justice

I hearmothers and fathers cry out for their child

I seeblood flowing down the streets and sidewalks

I wantpeace for that black boy or that black girl

I amquiet and observant

I pretendthat everything is okay

I feelas though I’m in a melancholic state

I touchthe rippled water

I worrythat fear and envy will always be the main contender for death

I crybut only for a while

I amquiet and observant

I understandthat every smile don’t mean pure happiness

I sayto be strong and positive

I dreamfor something better than this life here

I tryto have this mindset that everything is alright

I hopethe number of deaths cease

I amquiet and observant

