

Tyler Willis

Throughout history  
Throughout time  
We had a song  
Through it all  
We made ourselves heard

We sing for freedom  
We sing for equality  
We would sing  
To get through  
And we did

So we finished the song  
But the beat went on

Younger than 18  
With a dream  
Ending someone's nightmare  
With a bullet  
And waking up afraid  
With a possibility  
That they'd be on the other side of the gun

Head down eyes up  
Don't make yourself known  
Don't make yourself heard  
Or you'll be on the sidewalk  
Waiting for the birds screech

How has violence affected me  
My uncle got shot on his porch dead  
Uncle richard  
My cousin got shot but luckily survived  
Deondre  
My neighbor got shot before I moved

My god sister is in a abusive relationship  
My friends cousin got killed and they can't find the killer  
My aunt baby father left  
My dad died of cancer

Everywhere you go  
Soul flows  
Through everyone  
One bullet can kill one physically  
But hundreds mentally

Ha! Like that one death would make a difference

Now young kids are scared  
Fear causes choices  
Choices cause solutions  
And the solutions are clear

Shoot or be shot

The trigger  
Is their father figure  
And the gang  
Is the family  
One more dead body  
Is nothing new to see

I grew up without father  
Died of cancer

Many other grew up no father  
They Left  
Died  
Or divorced

My mom was all my support  
Their moms were depressed  
I went to school  
They went to sell a pound  
When I went home  
They went for a smoke

I packed a lunch  
They packed a M9

One false move and that could be me

They say life is short  
And death is certain  
Thats a understatement for some

They know no better  
They had no better  
They became no better  
Than another body

It could never happen to you right?  
But in a blink of an eye  
My life as well as yours  
could taken

By that same kid who begged for a dollar  
The same kid your kid played with at the playground  
The same one who packed a Gun in his pocket  
The same kid who you thought  
Would amount to nothing

Just Another body  
Right?

I've heard it before  
A reload of a clip  
The *skirt* of a car  
a police siren  
Caution tape  
Then the classic

"Im sorry ma'am there's not enough evidence to find who did it"

No they don't care  
We barely care  
Were killing ourselves  
They know it  
We know it  
Cause we live for no one else

Why would we  
Why care about someone else's life  
When we had a rough day  
We say we love our skin  
But we would trade it in a instance

We trust no one else  
And so we die for the ones we trust  
Cause they are all we have  
And we're quick to kill for them too

Is life a gift?  
Is death uncertain?  
Will we survive to see the song play again  
The truth is you'll never know  
Till the smoke passes

Violence is everywhere  
It's in the gentlest of people  
It's in the youngest of a child  
In the hearts of everyone

But when we become stronger  
When we remember the song  
That's when the violence stops

When we give that child a chance  
When we stand up for the weak  
When we stop killing each other  
We can start healing the pain

We've fought so hard to be free  
And now the issue is us  
We've went from steel to rust  
Freedoms not a want  
it's a must  
This is not the america I trust

Let us be  
Free Again

And only by sharing the love  
And making a alliance  
Can we spread the word

And stop the violence...