

# Black Trans

1 for the love of power  
1 for the sake of power  
1 in service to power



that becomes my relationship to risk, connected strings of images that bring you to a moment – to connect your experience to what is happening onstage

everything you do  
everything you don't do  
Deceives

When I love, you are no longer my enemy  
But the words you spoke I keep within me.

Langston Hughes once said "nobody loves a genius child"  
My Beautiful genius children stay getting murdered in the streets

Black Trans girl brilliance, shining too too bright  
The boys on the block can't escape their light

They reach to the heavens, but the girls throw shade  
They step back to their villas, to sip Lemonade

The recent increase in celebrity "visibility" that clearly  
Does nothing for the most vulnerable

Makes us all targets for bigots in statehouses  
Whose hatred is uncontrollable

Black women carry around pain in brown paper sacks, in shack packs, in Louis Vuitton,  
Chanel, and Coach, sometimes it's a laundry bag that looks too heavy  
Or a backpack, or a diaper bag, "damn Ma what you got in yo' purse, a 45?"

We carry the weight of movements strapped over our shoulders, burlap sacks filled with  
dead bodies

**#sayhername**

Monica Loera, 43 y/o Trans woman

Jasmine Sierra, 52 y/o Trans woman

Demarkis Stansberry, 30 y/o Black Trans man

Kayden Clarke, 24 y/o Trans man

Nadine Stransen, 89 y/o Trans woman

Kedarie/Kandicee Johnson, 16 y/o Black gender-fluid person

Kourtney Yochum, 32 y/o Trans woman of color

Maya Young, 25 y/o Black Trans woman

Veronica Banks Cano, 41 y/o Trans woman of color

Shante Thompson, 34 y/o Trans woman of color

Keyonna Blakeney, 22 y/o Trans woman of color

Reese Walker, 32 y/o Trans woman of color

Mercedes Successful, 32 y/o Trans woman of color

by **Andrea Jenkins**

*TJFP Community Panel Facilitator*