

killed in america

children wake up and wonder if they will be safe at school / a safe haven destroyed by the threat of a shooting / drills each month where we are instructed to hide / shut the doors and sit / but we all know that no lock will ever be a match for bullets / and that if those drills were real - only a miracle would protect us / for there is nowhere safe for us / we live in constant fear / our homes our schools our stores our parks / no aspect of our lives has been untouched / not even 18 / but this is my world / i have grown up with shooting after shooting / and night after night / seeing face after face / of kids who look just like me / and each time a child is killed / we all descend with our righteous outrage / but after a couple of days / the yells become muted / and the world becomes complacent / yet those children never have a tomorrow / they never have a future / their families are ripped apart / they cannot simply move on / they cannot simply live another day

so how can we simply stand by and watch as generation after generation becomes prey?

but yet we do / and we continue to do / because there have been more shootings than days in the year / and in my life i have witnessed massacre after massacre / and the people who are there to protect me sit by and watch / and i wonder why they do nothing / why they let these people kill / why they let these people die / why they keep letting this happen in a country that is free / and why do we have to beg and plea / only for this land from sea to shining sea / to see no value in our lives / and why and why and why / i keep asking myself / and there are no answers i can come up with / no reason for these deaths / no reason for the memorials / no reason for the candles / no reason for the songs of the lost / no reason for the continued fear / no reason for the lock down drills / no reason for the ignored calls for change / no reason for the laws not passed / no reason for the country not to change / no reason for the inhumanity

there are no answers

and so i continue to live in a world that is not safe / that has taken away my youth and my innocence / that has made me learn to hide / that has done nothing to protect me / that has made me wonder where i am safe / and i am just one person / and i am lucky compared to some / and i am not alone in this reality / and i will not be the last to fear these fears / because i am a kid in america / and although we were born in america

too many of us have been killed in america