

A LETTER TO 2020 (POEM)

Dear 2020,

I thought you would only last week but you flew and expanded yourself like a bird with wings

You have me sitting in my room thinking about a lot of things

Things that make me overthink that leads to my eyes to sting

With tears that appeared from thin air

laying on my bed saying "I don't care"

But that's not the true

Because you have told me to "Become a better you"

I look at myself in the mirror everyday

Analyzing myself saying "no way"

This is not the same girl that would give up on simple task or be highly insecure

This is a girl that know hows to speak up and be mature

One that has connected with her religion

Wearing her Hijab proud

Ignoring the rude comments she receives from the crowds

Im that girl and that girl is me

You've forced me to stay in the house with my family

The number one people that mean alot to me

Yeah they sometimes get on my nerve but if they ever need my help i'll be there in a heartbeat

Living in Philly isn't really easy

With the gun violence and crime rates, kids trying to act gangster is getting very cheesy

Being with my community was something i used to always retreat

Until the world heard the final words of George Floyd "I cant breath"

Protest erupted, with everyone people coming together

Joining protest with my fist up yelling "BLACK LIVES MATTER"

Multiple lives of black men and woman lost at the contact of a police gun

People talked about her for week then made her a trend

Until Justice is served to Breonna Taylor and other black lives lost to police,

these protest will never end

Because of you I had to find my voice as teen in today's society without being looked over as a lazy human being

Adults will forever label us words like this but never see through our perspective

We have a voices that need to be heard and a better outlook on what life is

Some of us with bad mental health but are expected to be happy because we're young

Our voices will be heard whether people like it not, and that's on Period

Don't forget the T

Bringing the community together instead of saying "I" we say "We"

2020, you will forever be an impact to my teenage years

Although the stress you've given me and unnecessary fear

I can kinda now say cheers

You have won the award for the worst year

But you have taught many lessons to me and my peers

-Fanta Dukuly