

A Black Woman's Burden

“Sisters there is a hole in my heart that is bearing your shapes
over and over as I read only the headlines of this morning’s
newspaper.” - Audre Lorde

Sisters there are bruises on my body
And bullets in my brain
And knives in my back
And burn marks
All over
In the shapes of our names
Chosen and
Dead
As I read only the headlines
Of forgotten news articles
For us forgotten girls.

One day we will all live past our girlhood.
One day they will give us our flowers before we are dead.