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To My Sisters and Brothers

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To My Sisters and Brothers

Josey N. Meats

Slavery has never been abolished from America's way of thinking.

~ Nina Simone

Sisters and Brothers,

Yes, you, my Black sisters and brothers.

I want to apologize.

I want to be able to apologize,

But “I’m sorry” isn’t enough when an entire history
is under the ownership of other human beings.

It isn’t enough when

“I can’t breathe”

Echoes across the “land of the free.”

It isn’t enough when

The failure to use a turn signal

Ends in a death sentence.

It will never be enough when

Only a few of these modern lynchings are broadcast,

And they happen every day.

It will never be enough when

white families just eat their dinners and watch the news:

“Aw, that’s awful,” they say—their response to this cultural genocide.

Sisters and Brothers,

We whites will never be as strong and proud as you.

In fact, we never should be.

Sisters and Brothers,

We whites should stand beside you, shoulder to shoulder

In a nation that is built upon a foundation of Black bodies —

Unfortunately, the same hands that wrote “all men are created equal” were wet with the blood of slaves. It seems “the American way” is only two things: *Hate and Greed*.

yours,

a white child of God