

Jerrell's

Book

Of

Poetic

Knowledge

“I have a dream” – Martin Luther King, Jr.

“Racism is not an excuse to not do the best you can” –
Arthur Ashe

“Just like you can buy grades of silk, you can by grades of
justice” – Ray Charles

“Do not call for black power or green power. Call for brain
power” – Barbara Jordan

“Have a vision. Be demanding” – Colin Powell

“God gives nothing to those who keep their arms crossed –
African Proverb

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Pg. 1	The “F” Words (Concrete)
Pg. 2	Black (Synonym)
Pg. 3	Nights and Days (Opposite)
Pg. 4	School (List)
Pg. 5	Basketball (Three Word Forms)
Pg. 6	I Don’t Understand
Pg. 7	Just Because
Pg. 8	I Am (Version 1)
Pg. 9	I Am (Version 2)
Pg. 10	(Diamante) or “Life”
Pg. 11	Peaceful (Cinquin)
Pg. 12	Darkness (Portraits and Pals)
Pg. 13	Me (Formula Poem)
Pg. 14	Bulletproof (Emotions and Actions)
Pg. 15	Hurricane (Weather)
Pg. 16	June (Month metaphors)
Pg. 17	winter Days (Image)
Pg. 18	School Daze (Sense)
Pg. 19	America (Contrast)
Pg. 20	Home (Object)
Pg. 21	First & Last
Pg. 22	Bull Durham Credo
Pg. 23	A.L.A.B.A.M.A. (Haiku) & Alone (Tanka)
Pg. 24	Choices (Rhetorical Question)
Pg. 25	People (Pantoum)
Pg. 26	War (Sestina)
Pg. 27	JOY
Pg. 28	WOW
Pg. 29	Imagine That
Pg. 30	Love

CONCRETE POEM

Fabulous
fantastic
un
forever

BLACK

Dark, Lonely, gloomy and sad
When you're down in the dumps, cheer up,
forget that you're mad.

NIGHTS AND DAYS

When you're faced with a stormy night and a cloudy day.
Stand up and fight, the light will lead the way.

If night was day, and day was night, then the world
Would be an amazing opposite site.

SCHOOL

School is something everyone must go through
School can either make or break you
School is big
School is fun
School has a playground to play on under the sun
School is great, and school is good
I Love school as much as you should
School can make you successful
School can be stressful
School is a wonderful world
School is filled with wonderful boys and girls.

Basketball

Cool fun exciting
Fun exciting jumping
Exciting jumping running
Jumping running bouncing
Running bouncing playing
Bouncing playing swaying
Playing swaying dunking
Swaying dunking smashing
Dunking smashing shooting
Smashing shooting basketball!

I Don't Understand

I don't understand...

Why people drink and drive

Why people go on Jerry Springer

Why people that know they can't sing go on American Idol

But most of all...

Why people do drugs

Why kids become violent by playing video games

Why people do drugs

Why people don't believe in God

What I don't understand most is...

Why we don't attempt to spread our arms and jump off buildings

Why we don't play with guns

Why we don't burn money

Why we eat and drink

Just Because

Just because I go to church...

Don't call me a hypocrite

Don't laugh and call me names

Don't judge me

Just because I go to church...

It doesn't mean I'm a preacher

It doesn't mean I don't make mistakes

It doesn't mean I know everything about the Bible

Just because I go to church...

Respect me for who I am

Realize that I'm a kid just like you

Just because I go to church—doesn't make me different from you.

I Am

Fun joyful hopeful
I like spending time with family & friends
Freedom is important to me
Honesty is important to me
Religion is important to me
Hospitality is a very good thing
Lying is bad, but can be good to get out of tight situations
The world is full of war and hate
Some people are mean
Some people are nice

I Am

I Am

I am hopeful
I wonder about life

I hear good and bad news
I see poverty
I want the war to end
I am hopeful

I pretend the world is perfect
I say things to make me smile
I dream the madness will end
I cry because I'm sad
I am hopeful

I understand the world will break free
I feel hopelessness, pain, and struggle
I torch the world's sorrows
I try to hold back emotions
I hope to life free
I am hopeful.

Diamante

Life

Amazing, wonderful

Aching, shaking, growing

Love, hate, disgust, struggle, peace

Graceful, cheerful

Death

Cinquin

Peaceful
Hopeful, freedom
Fantastic, amazement
Love, grace, peace, happiness, soul
Freedom

Black
Dirt
Tar
Licorice
Chalkboard
Africans
My hair
My computer
Wesley Snipes
My dog
My heritage
My life
My refrigerator
My favorite shirt color
The skies
The world

Me

Cool

Funny, humorous, nice

Standing in the corner

Me.

What if I was bulletproof?

What if I was bulletproof...?

Nothing would hurt or affect me

What if I was bulletproof...?

I could do anything

What if I was bulletproof...?

I would have the courage to do anything

What if you were bulletproof...?

Hurricane

Hurricane comes strong, hard, and fast
Hurricanes clear everything in their path
Hurricanes break and shake with wrath
Hurricanes could be anywhere lurking around
Hurricanes leave with the fierceness of a lion, with the tiniest sound

June

June creeps by and starts the fun
June is playing with your friends in the hot summer sun
June doesn't talk or even say a word
June is all around us, not to be heard
June flies around as peaceful as a bird

Winter Days

Wind howling
Winter trees
Wild wolves
Winter breeze
Winter snow
Winter days.

School Daze

Cloudy days

French fries

School bells

Kindergarten cries

Roars of a teenage jerk

I want to go outside, but my mom says “homework!”

America

Unpredictable
Crazy
Reckless

Beautiful
Peaceful
United.

Home

Home is a place where you feel welcome

Home is a place of privacy

Home is a place of freedom

Home is where the heart is

Home is where it starts, and home is where it ends.

First and Last

We did it in front of the mirror
She laughed
I laughed
She smiled
I smiled
She kissed
I kissed
I take back everything I've said

Bull Durham Credo

I believe in the Constitution

The Bible

The Ten Commandments

The Democratic Party

The importance of family

Faith, love, happiness

But I don't believe in taking care of your family

I believe in going to school

I believe in respecting others

I believe in working hard for something you believe in

Terrific, fantastic, fun

And I believe in doing to others, as you would have them
do to you.

Alabama

Cool climate, tall trees
Nothing beats the summer breeze
In Alabama

Choices

How can choices affect my life?

Probably in a big way

I make different choices everyday

I choose them by actions and things we say

Choices can make me or break me

Choices affect you and me

People

All people are different in some form or fashion

People come in different shapes and sizes

All people are not of the same race

All people have different obstacles they face

People come in different shapes and sizes

People face different facts of life

All people have different obstacles they face

In life, people must find their place

War

It brings pain	It forgets love	It leaks hate
It denies peace	It brings pain	It forgets love
It leaks hate	It spreads wounds	It sheds blood
It sheds blood	It denies peace	It brings pain
It spreads wounds	It sheds blood	It denies peace
It forgets love	It leaks hate	It spreads wounds

It spreads wounds	It sheds blood	It denies peace
It leaks hate	It spreads wounds	It sheds blood
It denies peace	It brings pain	It forgets love
It forgets love	It leaks hate	It spreads wounds
It brings pain	It forgets love	It leaks hate
It sheds blood	It denies peace	It brings pain

It sheds blood and spreads wounds
It leaks hate and denies peace
It forgets love and brings pain

Joy

Joy comes from the heart

Joy comes from the soul

Joy represents happiness

Joy represents forgiveness

Wow

Wow is a word of amazement

Wow means fun

Wow means excitement

Wow means enlightenment

Imagine That

Imagine that the world was flat
Imagine that the days were black
Imagine that there were no Martin Luther King
Imagine that you couldn't have a dream
Imagine everything I've said was fact
Imagine That

Love

Love is special
Love is from the heart
Love is unique
Love can never part
Nothing stops love
Nothing ends love
Love is beautiful
Like the heavens above
Love will prevail
Love will never fail