

99 WRITING

Wrong Black Boy

by Oriel, 826NYC

TYPE
POETRY

Will my brother make it home tonight?

Or will he be shot walking home from the corner store
with a 99-cent Arizona bottle that will be mistaken
for a gun?

Just another Trayvon Martin.

Will my brother make it home tonight?

Or will nine police officers beat him in a jail cell?

Just another Omar.

Will my brother make it home tonight?

Or will the police tase him until he is near dead and
his heart stops
beating for eight minutes?

Just another Bryce Master.

Will my brother make it home tonight?

Or will he be shot for being mistaken for the wrong
black boy?

Just another Darrius Stewart.

Will my brother make it home tonight?

Or will he be caught
at the wrong place
at the wrong time?

Just another Donnell Thompson.

Will my brother make it home tonight?

Or will he become part of a hashtag

Black Lives Matter?

Just another Michael Brown.

Will my brother make it home tonight?

Or will he be put in a choke hold and make it to a casket instead?

Just another Eric Garner.

Will my brother make it home tonight?

Or will he be shot while handcuffed?

Just another Jamar Clark.

Will our brothers make it home tonight?

Or will our mothers be called by the hospital

to ID their little black boys?