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and I mean / and I am saying by hn. lyonga

I am saying
there are many ways of dying in a foreign country
with a dream in my mouth

I am saying
somewhere in the world a black girl is being held
in a room against her will

I am saying
paperwork and powers that be

I am saying
stamps signatures and envelopes

I am saying
duldung

I am saying
white establishments continue to taunt
abuse and traumatize

I am saying
politics of exclusion disguises itself
as formalities

I am saying
hierarchies whiteness and racist structures

I am saying
everyday bodies collapse
under the weight of governments

I am saying
one day I will have to explain to my nieces
how *black people die* in Germany

I am saying
there are any number of ways
a black person can die while in police custody

I am saying
in Germany a person can go up in flames in a police cell
or die from gunshot wounds at a local job center
or tortured and stretched across a hospital bed

I am saying
whole bodies go missing

I am saying
we are tired of writing our names on banners
and building coalitions to stay alive



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I am saying
the writing is on the wall & it is glaring

I am saying
state apparatuses come up with newer ways
of eluding proper investigation in police brutality cases

I am saying
the power to evade justice

I am saying
politicians withflyers

I am saying
It has been sixteenyears
and I am not eligible to vote

I am saying
my prayers begin and end
with - I do not want to die face-down
with shoeprints around my neck (& a sigh)

I am saying
sound

I am saying
gunshots&churchbells

I am saying
I am not sure I will return home in time
to bury my grandmother without forfeiting my *aufenthaltstitel*

I am saying
highbloodpressure and the shock of a rejectionletter
can culminate into something deadly

I am saying
my life is a dichotomy of being
trapped in something that seems secure
& being transfixed by the very protection it promises

I am saying
in our household bureaucracy is a subject
it is visceral enough to exist on its own

I am saying
in the many years my body has undergone bureaucratic processes
I have learned

I am saying
when you love something enough
you live with the fear of losing or becoming it

I am saying
I am becoming

I am saying
this story has roots

I am saying
we have names you will commemorate



Eine deutsche
Arbeitsübersetzung
des Gedichts findet
sich hier auf unserer
Website: [https://
soziale-verteidigung.
de/artikel/rund-
brief-42021](https://soziale-verteidigung.de/artikel/rundbrief-42021)

Die Zusammenzie-
hung von Wörtern
in dem Gedicht ist
Absicht!