**Where I come from**

I’m not afraid of where I come from

I am African American and Creole

but it’s deeper than it appears on the surface

I am playful but it can get deeper than that

bracelets aren't cuffing me

My braids don’t hide my crown

I am unique

I might wear name-brand clothes

I’m not from my homeland

I'm home

I am not the smartest

but I try my hardest

I am not the prettiest

but I know I'm beautiful

I love who I am

And where I come from

The street is mean:

I am meaner -

Don’t test the limit.

Cause it’s dangerous

Live ya life

Not in the shadows

Always stay positive

never negative

karma is a pain

As they say, it always comes back

What happens in the dark

comes to the light

And shines like a police taser

When I hear a siren I'm scared for my life

but they can’t own me

Like they used to -

I like who I am

I love who I am as me

**By: Nye’la brown**