

foreword

by Nikki Giovanni

I know this it is difficult to grow up
 it always was
 it always will be

I know this nobody can tell you how to do it
 You just make the same mistakes and
 You just thrill to the same excitement

I know this Life is a good idea

I think it is illogical to assume there is no other
 life in the Universe

I think the possibility of re-creating ourselves is
 in our hands
 we just happen to be the only species that
 we respect

It is our loss.
We need to listen to those who are forming
We need to hear the cry of those in pain
We need to respect the fear and embrace the longing
 of those who are new to the wilderness

I know imagination is a good idea
I know those forging forward must embrace creativity
I know humans will shrivel from emotional needs
 before we die of starvation or dehydration
 The body will take care of itself.

We need food for the Soul

 We need poetry . . . We deserve poetry

We owe it to ourselves to re-create ourselves

 And find a different if not better way to live

Paint Me Hopeful Paint Me Futuristic Paint me Nikki
 I'm a Poet

Directions: After reading "Foreword" by Nikki Giovanni,
1. Brainstorm a list of
a. what you know
b. what you think
c. what we need
d. adjectives that describe you
2. Then complete the form poem below.

(TITLE)
by _____

I know this _____

I know this _____

I know this _____

I think _____

I think _____

It is _____.

We need _____
We need _____
We need _____

I know _____
I know _____

We need _____ for the _____.

We need _____.... We deserve _____

We owe it to ourselves to _____

And _____

Paint Me _____ Paint Me _____ Paint me _____

I'm a _____