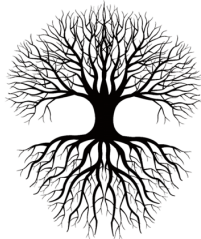


## Jasmyne K. Rogers

Jasmyne K. Rogers is a graduate of Georgia State University and native of Wilcox County, Alabama. She is also an 8th Grade ELA teacher. She thoroughly enjoys penning soul stories that reflect the history, culture, and progression of people of African descent. Her soul stories are featured in For Harriet, My Black Matters, Blavity, Ayiba Magazine, NU Tribe Magazine, and Brown Girls Books. Her latest soul story, "Everybody Can't Come to Your House," will be featured in midnight & indigo. Connect with her on Instagram and Twitter: @jaszy\_in\_bloom.

I chose this platform as a home for my poem because it aligns with my voice and divine purpose as a Black woman writer. This journal centers the narratives of people in the African diaspora and seeks to educate, liberate, and heal the collective through the mode of storytelling.



# DNA

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*This poem is about a Black woman remembering her divinity.*

## **My cells tell stories**

stories rooted in deep places  
with cherry oak trees  
porches with wooden boards and meshed screen  
adorned with Black women with thick pain  
yet, honey pouring from their mouths  
the Blues in their eyes  
rememory in their breaths  
scattered flowers in their hearts  
healing in their hands  
as their fingertips  
massage scalps  
and humming and moaning heal the wombs  
of generations of women  
My cells tell stories  
of sacred spaces  
where souls bloom in the dark  
cracks in the concrete  
fragmented, but still rose