**POEMS by Langston Hughes**

**Children's Rhymes**

By what sends  
the white kids  
I ain't sent:  
I know I can't  
be President.  
What don't bug  
them white kids  
sure bugs me:  
We know everybody  
ain't free.  
  
Lies written down  
for white folks  
ain't for us a-tall:  
*Liberty And Justice--*  
Huh!--*For All?*

Langston Hughes

5th Grade ELA – Unit 1

**Democracy**

Democracy will not come  
Today, this year  
Nor ever  
Through compromise and fear.  
  
I have as much right   
As the other fellow has  
To stand  
On my two feet   
And own the land.  
  
I tire so of hearing people say,   
Let things take their course.  
Tomorrow is another day.  
I do not need my freedom when I'm dead.  
I cannot live on tomorrow's bread.  
  
Freedom  
Is a strong seed  
Planted  
In a great need.  
  
I live here, too.  
I want freedom  
Just as you.

Langston Hughes