My Heart, A Caged Bird by Lily McFall Based on Maya Angelou's "Caged Bird"

> The creature within me yearns Seeks An exit Longs to fly free Dip her wings in the velvet sky Crow her name at the heavens and hellish seas Yet Often barred By stagnant molds Erupting into iron cages Within my heart Dark trees caging her from flight Oftentimes she is silent, my bird within me Content, awaiting some hidden key I wonder If she will ever realize The door lies open If only she would Fly Dare To claim what she seeks

DISCLAIMER: May contain topics that are disturbing and/or triggering to some viewers (Ex. SA, Suicidal Themes) Residential Assistant in Physical Education by Norah Myer

All that rings in my mind, Is a word Dark enough to make me blind. With your hands on my hips And careful parting Of my lips, I want to bite you And pry you Away And tell you to stay Far from me, Though you'll just make it a decree And tell me what to see But I have eves. A mouth and replies, A person that cries, To follow behind And I was filled with sense, I was not nonsense, Yes, I used past tense It's been that way ever since. When I remove my clothes, And stare into the mirror, All I see are prints Hand prints, On my abode They've been there long, So they're cold And old So stop being bold. What did I do? You tell me to bow, And call you rex That to sigh, Will only make me next. My skirt is long But to you it's short You are my RA, Student affairs To make broken repairs

And you make me run, Like in PE But you, I flee Why can't you see? My skin boiled, Scorched by the sun My life, Permanently soiled And my skin, Torn at the corners Wrapped in bandages Near the borders And with this sword I swore this And you'll give my body to the coroners Promise this, Don't make me a foreigner To my own casket. Necrophiliac touches This sad dead miss, And gives her a sad dead kiss. With patient bliss He waits for her to wake up, Wake up from this.

I chose to listen to the river by Katelyn Tijerina

When others are talking I chose to listen to the river

When my mind is muttering I chose to listen to the river

When life is struggling with me I chose to listen to the river

At the end of the day I chose to listen to the river And when I am still I realize The river was listening to me