

# Myka's Speech

Early this morning, I stood in front of the mirror anxiously trying to decide, if I was going to shave the budding hairs around my lips and along my chin. I stood, nervously, in front of my closet wondering what outfit was going to scream C\*\*\*. I apprehensively looked down at my body and wondered if I should pad my bra to make my boobs look bigger, and if I was going to painfully tuck my penis inside my cheeks to ensure my leggings laid down smooth. I restlessly paced in front of my xisters room wondering if I should wake her and beg her to beat my face; so that foundation, highlighter, mascara, and lipstick would cover my dysphoria. And after all that, I still had no idea what I was going to do with my hair.

I spent the majority of this morning wondering what it was gonna take to feel validated at a march where women & femmes like me are tokenized, exploited, discarded, vilified, criminalized, and then disposed of. So today, I uplift The names Black Tran Women/Non Binary/ & Femmes in our community:

**Raquel Willis**  
**Mickyel Bradford**  
**Daroneshia**  
**Ahya Simone**  
**Lauryn Reeder**  
**Jae Alexis**  
**Ralayzia**  
**Jayla**  
**Tay**  
**Nacole**  
**Moriah Ferguson**  
**Elle Hearn**  
**Merci Chrisette**  
**Gigi Thomas**  
**Venus Selenite**  
**Ash Williams**  
**Glo Merriweather**  
**Miss Major**

And many more who are

My Xisters, My Siblings, My Family. And we are holding down this work.

**We are bailing folx out of jail, we are organizing court support for impacted individuals, we are fighting against ICE and Deportation, we are in Puerto Rico for relief efforts, we are fighting for Two Spirit & Indigenous Sovereignty, we are fighting against Palestinian oppression and Globalization through Militarization, we are fighting for reproductive justice, and we are fighting for our Black/POC TRANS, Gender Non-conforming, Queer communities.**

**We are organizing at intersections and are wondering who else will fight alongside us. The Revolution is not White, The Revolution is not Cis, The Revolution is not Pussy Hats,**

**The Revolution is and will always be Intersectional**

**So Now I ask, How will you show up for the most marginalized women, femmes, and gender nonconforming folks in our community?**

**Will you fight to remove surveillance and police from out of our Schools like West Mecklenburg or Butler?**

**Will you shut down Racist & Transphobic remarks when you hear them, even if it's from people you love and respect?**

**Will you fight for the safety and freedom of our incarcerated loved ones and help us build a world without prison and police?**

**Will you show up to Rayquan Borum's Trial with Charlotte Uprising on 2/11?**

**Will you donate your money to Black Trans Women's survival funds?**

**Will you show up to Comunidad Collectiva's teach in tomorrow at 1pm to understand the plights of Migrants here in our on community?**

**Will you be showing up next time SouthEast Asian Coalition organizes a march or teach in to end Southeast Asian Deportation?**

**Will you demand accountability from CMPD, our Mayor and Charlotte City Council the next time the police murder a Black person in the streets or in their home?**

**Will you hire or help employ Black Trans Women and Gender Non-Confirming folx?**

**Will you unite to defend people of color and homeless folks in Charlotte when the police are militarized behind trump during the RNC in 2020?**

**Will you fight the Bayou Bridge Pipeline, destroying lands stolen from two spirit/ indigenous communities?**

**Will you redistribute your time and resources to assist Cyntoia Brown when she's released from Prison?**

**What Will you do?**

**Fighting for women's rights is so much more than attending a march one day a year. We must transform how we view justice: until ALL of us, ALL (Black, Brown, Two Spirit, Indigenous, Trans, Queer, Immigrant, Fat, Sex workers, Poor, Homeless, Disabled) are free, Or none of us can be.**