

## Standing Tall

In honor of Martin Luther King, Jr.

Some kings rule their kingdoms sitting down  
Surrounded by luxury, soft cushions and  
fans

But this King stood strong  
stood proud  
stood tall

When the driver told Rosa  
“Move to the back of the bus!”  
When the waiter told students  
“We don’t serve your kind!”  
When the Mayor told voters  
“Your vote don’t count!”

And when the sheriff told marchers  
“Get off our streets!”  
using fire hoses, police dogs and cattle prods  
to move them along

This King stood strong  
stood proud  
stood tall  
Speaking of peace  
of love  
and children  
hand in hand  
free at last  
free at last

When some yelled for violence  
For angry revenge  
An eye for an eye  
And a tooth for a tooth  
He stood his ground  
Preaching peace



And when some spit out hate  
He stood there smiling  
Spreading love  
Until it rolled like the sea across the land  
Sweeping away Jim Crow  
Breaking down the walls  
Ringing the bell  
Joyfully  
For Freedom

Until  
Standing on the mountain top  
They shot him  
Coldly  
Hoping to see him fall  
Hoping to put him away  
To bring him low

But this King  
even in death  
even today  
stands strong  
stands proud  
stands tall  
And we remember