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## Ode to the Young

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**Ode To The Young**

For Oscar Brown, Jr.

*Donel Arrington*

I'm sorry, that we've killed the earth  
for all the extinct plants and birds  
for all the oil we had to burn  
yes, I apologize

I'm sorry, for the trail we leave  
of hunger, misogyny, and greed  
for all the shit we think we need  
yes, I apologize

I'm sorry, for the drones and bombs  
for every country we done wronged  
for every Bush, Clinton, and Trump  
yes, I apologize

I'm sorry, for the apartheid  
for all who suffer in Palestine  
for all the poems I didn't write  
yes, I apologize

I'm sorry because I am black  
for not being able to stop the attack  
on our bodies from way back  
yes, I apologize

I'm sorry to all those locked down  
in a cell because they're brown  
political prisoners not broke out  
yes, I apologize

I'm sorry to all of the poor  
for letting the rich make you their whores  
for keeping us sick without the cure  
yes, I apologize

I'm sorry for Standing Rock  
for the pipeline we tried to stop  
for every battle that we lost  
yes, I apologize

I'm sorry to the unborn kids  
for the world in which you'll live  
for what religious fanatics did  
yes, I apologize.