



I JUST WANT 2 B FREE

By AAWA Member Miz Floes

I JUST WANT 2 B FREE

I WANT LIBERTY!

Standing on land

Improved upon by my own hands

My blood, my sweat, and my tears!

Been denied, disrespected

Suffered centuries of inhumane
treatment

My history ... for the books... it's been

Watered down

Pay attention... look deeper

Still walking with your heads pointed toward the ground

Older generations still feel it's disrespectful to look a man of a
different race

Square in the face

It wasn't intended to be this way

None! Should fall

With equality

We can all... be free!

A world of Love, Peace and Freedom



Was the intent
From the time of, the very first descent
Now the time had arrived...
It was June 19th, the year of 1865
Many enslaved received a wonderful surprise
Couldn't believe their ears
On this glorious date
Slaves everywhere would celebrate... liberty!
No longer would we be... regarded as property
Now ... by law ... we were viewed as women and men
The sour stench ... the foul taste... the hate filled reign of slavery
Had finally reached, what was thought to be... it's end
New life... a new way of thinking could actually begin
Could... but did it?

Well...

Although the government did legislate
And would have the Black race celebrate
Lincoln's signature on that dotted line...
The emancipation would not be enough to open closed minds
As a result, the enslaved in Texas were left behind
Texan slave holders turned ears deaf ...
That instilled racism kept their eyes blind

True Freedom... would take more time

After the surrender of General Lee and his Northern Virginia army

Only then, did the enslaved within the state of Texas received the news...

They had **been** freed!

That's two long years after the signing of the Emancipation of Proclamation.

Talk about extreme procrastination

Still ever present was the resistance, hate, and hesitation

As a result, there was a mass migration

Freed men and women across the country sang songs of liberty...
letting freedom ring!

No more overseers!

Gone were the "Big House" routines

The free were shouting absolute equality!

Not yet it **wouldn't** be

Many of the free were convinced to remain quietly

on but not **as...** *the slave holder's property*

they were told they could stay on and work for wages

Yes the slaves were freed

Yet the freedom was granted... **in stages**

Indeed!

No somebody water that seed.. of knowledge I just planted

Teach these youngsters to stop taking this freedom for granted!

Plant that knowledge and watch the wisdom grow

Knowledge is power!

Use that wisdom, choose wisely

Stay away from those prisons

Embrace the freedom the ancestors sought

When they were being kidnapped, sold, and bought

From African, and Indigenous royal ancestry

To the fields of slavery

Redesigned and later fashioned as sharecrop

Systemic injustice ... non-stop

Over 200 years forced to pick cotton

Time passed... yet we haven't forgotten

It's not likely that those harsh memories will EVER fade

Still we've taken life's lemons, added sugar, and made lemonade

Today, I honor my ancestors from Africa, and those that were indigenous to this land.

I stand and celebrate **FREEDOM**

FINALLY GOT MY LIBERTY

NOW I'M FREE

LIKE THE WIND BLOWING THROUGH THE TREES

Happy Juneteenth!!!