TO WHO I THINK:
I want these things to stop

Ebenezer Tewolde, age 10
LESCHI ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, FIFTH GRADE

Shout out to family to sickness to blind
shout out to hearing to deaf
and the sound, found to the hanged
to the killed to the death and the hard
working to the ship sinking to the sad, bad,
mad to the people to the loved to unloved to
unhated to hated to the richness to homeless
to ugliness, dumbest, to the shouting, crying
and the sexual abuse to the poor to the one
who is in need to the weak to the shouting,
beating, to the mistreating, to the death, but
cries to live to the pain that’s raining by hatred
to the one who’s unloved that needs to be loved
to the writing that’s biting to the airplane crash,
car crash,
to the racism, to the people of color mistreated
for doing their best to the tribes that are
being crashed and defeated to the fighting
that never stops to the weapons that are scary
to the unlucky, bombing bad thinking, to the
stupid to the shouting. Shout out the war
that never stops and the people that are fighting
for their families or someone or something
that they love.

Shout out to the great people who help other people,
risking their lives to save someone in need.

This writing was created during the Seattle Arts & Lectures’ Writers in the Schools (WITS) 2019-20 residency at Leschi Elementary School with WITS Writer-in-Residence, Jeanine Walker.