“I am Graffiti” Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

i am writing to tell you

that yes, indeed,

we have noticed

you have a new big pink eraser

we all well aware

You are trying to use it.

erasing indians is a good idea

Or course

the bleeding- heart liberals

and communists

can stop feeling bad

for the stealing

and raping

and murdering

and we can all move on

we can be reconciled

except, i am graffiti.

except, mistakes were made.

she painted three white Xs

on the wall of the grocery store.

one. two, three.

then they were erased.

except, i am graffiti.

except, mistakes were made.

the xs were made out of milk

because they took our food.

one. two. three.

then they were erased.

except, I am graffiti.

except, mistakes were made.

we are the singing remnants

left over after

the bomb went off in slow motion

over a century instead of a fractionated second

it’s too much to process, so we make things instead

we are the singing remnants

left over after

the costumes have been made

collected up

put in a aplastic bag, full of intentions

for another time

another project.

except, i am graffiti.

and mistakes were made.

-Leanne Simpson

1. What do you think graffiti is a symbol for in this poem?
2. Why do you think the poem is written in lower case letters and sentence fragments? What message is the poet trying to convey by doing that?
3. What do you think phrase “the bomb that went off in slow motion” refers to?
4. What do you think is the theme of this poem? Use a quote to support your idea
5. From the goody-bag pick an object that could be a symbol for yourself, (think of something that you believe in, or stand for or a personality trait you possess. Explain in a small paragraph (3-5 sentences) exactly why that object would symbolize you.