On Normalcy

“We are not going back to ‘normal.’ ‘Normal’ is the invisibility of our experiences on campus yet the exploitation of our work. ‘Normal’ is marginalization in the physical spaces of the campus and the minds and hearts of white members of the College. ‘Normal’ is facing consistent microaggressions in and outside of the classroom with little to no avenue towards relief or healing. ‘Normal’ is having to swallow our emotions towards our oppressors for the sake of ‘community.’ ‘Normal’ is exasperation. Normal is anti-Blackness.”

“To draw upon some of our conclusions from conversations with Fred Moten and Nia Love, the strike will never be over. It is a state of consciousness, a consistent practice—though we call this moratorium today, we live in the general strike.”

“As you walk around the campus you are so fond of, the campus that truly is picturesque as a result of the labor of staff, a group that predominantly consists of BIPOC, and even more specifically, Black folks, remember who this campus has failed. Who it was built for. And who will disrupt the order.”

“It is a myth that Bryn Mawr is a ‘community’ but is a fact that Bryn Mawr has communities but those groups of people are the people who prevent this school from having a collective identity.”

“For that reason, we hope that our detractors -- those who have continually punished us, engaged in bad faith, spoken ill of our intentions, attempted to derail our movement, and refused to protect and work with us -- are not satisfied that we have now chosen to release a memorandum on the strike.”

“Following the sentiments of our peers at Haverford College from Women of Color House, Black Students Refusing Further Inaction, Black Student League, and other BIPOC students that the institution has failed, we must continue to disrupt the fucking order. Never stop advocating for change and never stop imagining radical ways towards a just and progressive society.”

“We are continuing our work, as we always have, and we will hold no one’s hand through it. Approach the movement, its action, and its actors with the respect we deserve as we, Black folks, struggle. And make your position in the struggle known.”