Simone White
Unrest

ABOUT THE BOOK:
Unrest began as a spontaneous response to and prayer of thanks for David Walker’s 1829 Appeal (the full title is quoted in one section of the series), an uncompromising attack on slavery and performance of black “enlightenment.” The serial poem’s abecedarian form is activated by thinking about what it means to be deeply engaged in writing when writing is forbidden: the subject(s) of the poems contemplate epic alliances for the black who reads and writes (Shakespeare, Henry James, the poet’s sister, and, of course, Ghostface Killah of Wu-Tang Clan), and enacts, reveling in contemporary displays of opulent black speech, experiences of both joy and sorrow.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR:
Simone White was born in 1972 in Middletown, Connecticut, and grew up in Philadelphia. After graduating from Harvard Law School in 1997, she practiced law for seven years. Simone is the author of House Envy of All of the World (Factory School, 2010), the chapbook Dolly (Q Ave Press, curated by Ross Gay, with the paintings of Kim Thomas), and her work also has appeared in The Claudius App, Aufgabe, The Recluse, Callaloo, Ploughshares, Tuesday; An Art Project, the exhibition catalog for the Studio Museum of Harlem’s Flow, and Gathering Ground: A Reader Celebrating Cave Canem’s First Decade. She lives in Bedford-Stuyvesant, Brooklyn.