The Law as a Broken Clock Kayleen Rivera

Time moves slowly, endlessly, a broken loop— Tick-tock, they say justice for all, But for who? And at what cost?

The courtroom is silent,

Yet outside, the streets are loud, The **bourgeoisie's** voices rise in power, While the **proletariat** work for hours.

9-10 am, the suits take their place,
Behind closed doors in a high-stakes case.
The **repeat players** grin, there victory is clear,
While the **one-shotters** realize their loss is here.

The law is everywhere watching us, eyes unwavered— The **panopticon** is always there.

Do they see me staring back?

Do they care?

Tick. The promise of **formal equality**, Tock. The reality of divide. **Symbolic law** offers hope on paper, But hope won't heal our side.

11 pm debate—should I take a stand?

Speak my truth or play by their rules?

12 am stare—at the political conflict on my screen

1 am loneliness—facing a system so large, so cold.

2 am thoughts—of all the ways the law fails us.

3 am consumed—by the glowing lies on screens, **The Rule of Law** promises fairness the la

4 w never delivers.

Where has justice gone?

Why has fairness fled?

We are left with **repressive laws** that silence the people,

And surveillance societies with Urban Governance that call it safety.

Substantive equality never to be seen,

While **hegemonic power** takes the scene—

5 am: How long can this clock run?

How long before a revolution, a riot, a protest?

9-10 am: I wake, knowing the cycle will repeat.

Day by Day.

Tick.

Tock.

Justice, forever delayed.