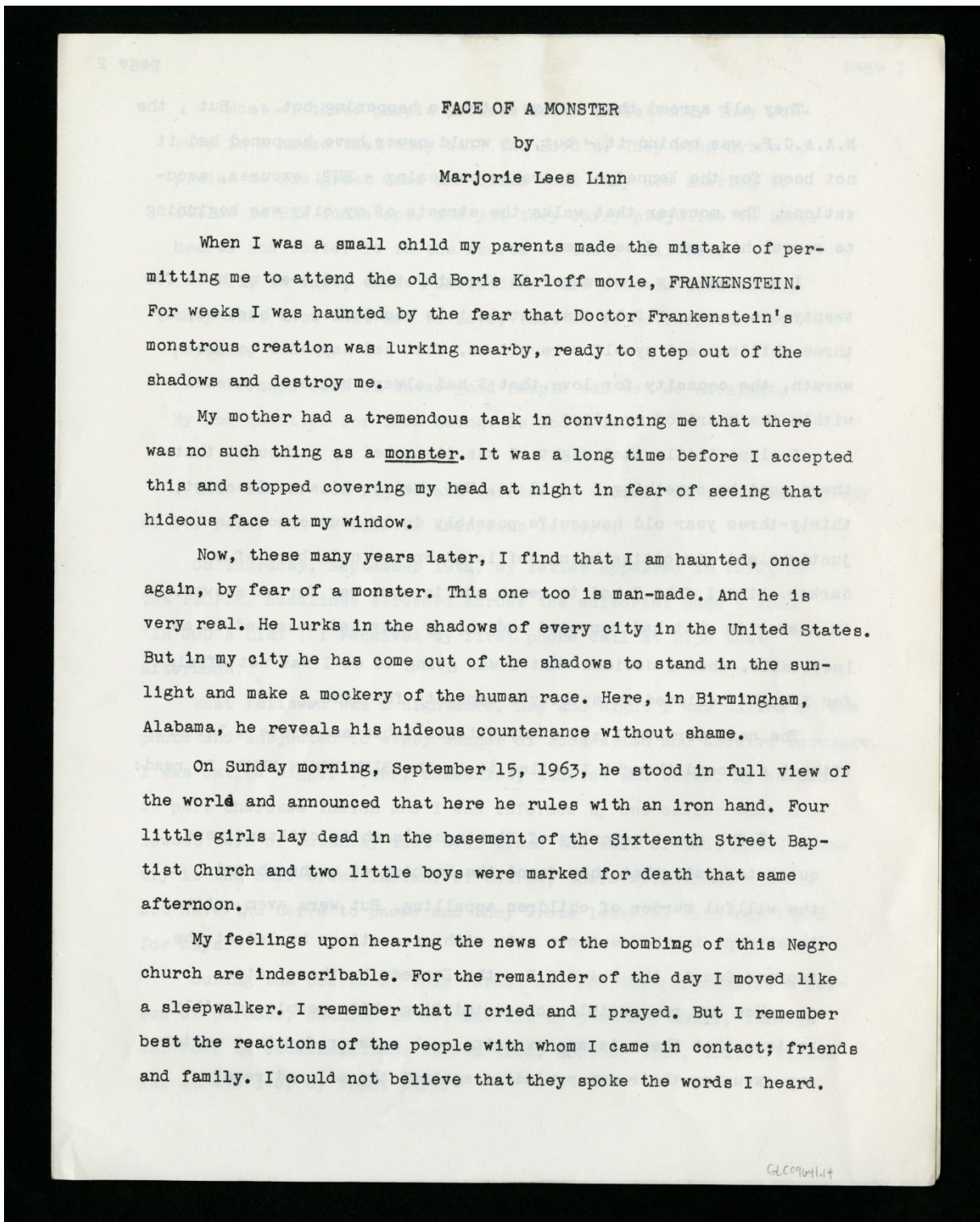


Face of a Monster, 1964.

Image



Face of a Monster, 1964.

(The Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History, GLC09641.14 p1)

Face of a Monster, 1964.

Image

page 2

They all agreed that it was a tragic happening but... But , the N.A.A.C.P. was behind it - but, it would never have happened had it not been for the Kennedys. A tragic happening - BUT; excuses, accusations. The monster that walks the streets of my city was beginning to reveal his true face to me.

I was suddenly a stranger in the city that had been my home for twenty-one years. I felt that within it's boundaries my husband, my three children and myself were aliens. What had happened to the warmth, the capacity for love that I had always believed existed within the heart of my city?

I slept little that night. I was disturbed by a thought that there must be something I could do. But what could a nondescript, thirty-three year old housewife possibly do to counteract the injustices and atrocities being inflicted on her neighbors of a darker skin? I felt I had to reach out in some way for an answer. An answer to what had happened and why my city had accepted it as inevitable. When I decided what I was going to do I was not afraid for I still believed in my city's capacity for love.

The next morning I sat at my kitchen table and wrote a letter. Without a second thought I mailed it to the BIRMINGHAM NEWS. It read:

" The great majority of Birmingham's white citizens were quick to admit that they found the bombing of a church and the willful murder of children appalling. But were even quicker to attempt to excuse those acts with accusations hurled at the Supreme Court, the N.A.A.C.P., the Kennedy brothers, etc.

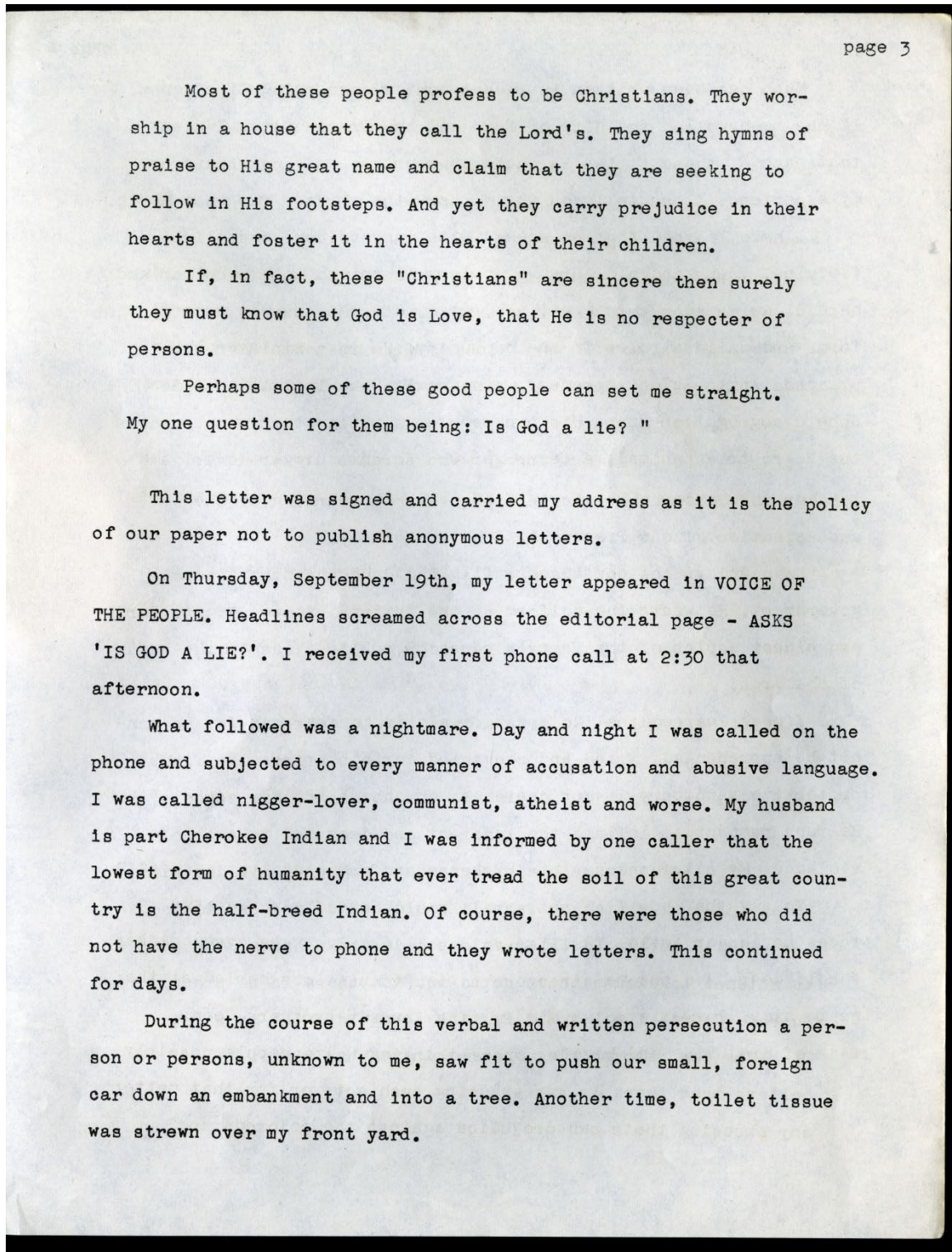
How can responsible, clear-thinking white people possibly believe that there is any excusing such acts or for that matter any excusing their own prejudice against the colored race?

Face of a Monster, 1964.

(The Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History, GLC09641.14 p2)

Face of a Monster, 1964.

Image

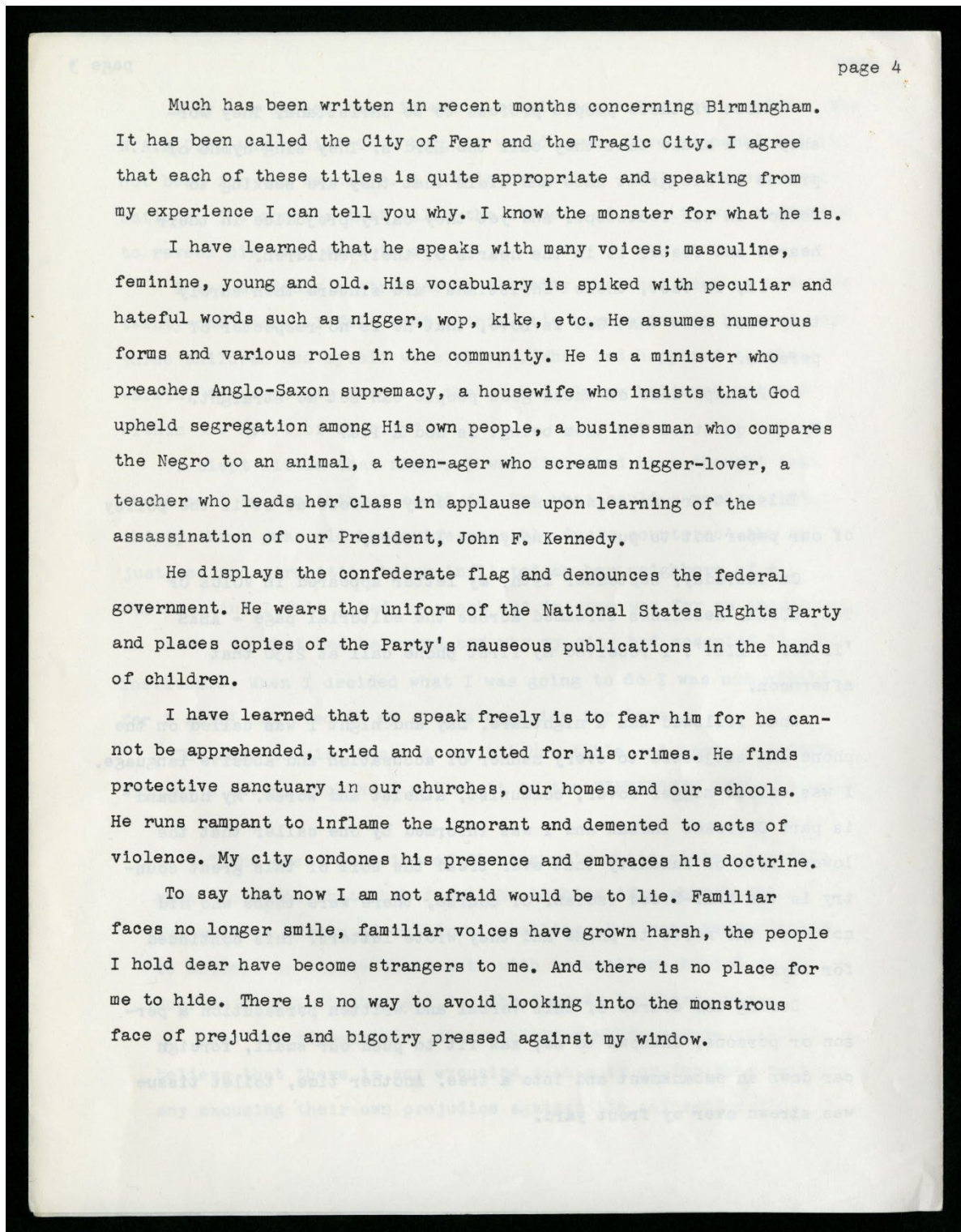


Face of a Monster, 1964.

(The Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History, GLC09641.14 pg3)

Face of a Monster, 1964.

Image



Face of a Monster, 1964.

(The Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History, GLC09641.14 p4)