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## THE LAND OF CAPRICE

By

Hassan Abdi Keynaan

I met a pendulum one day;  
It offered me a free ride,  
And, with dirty haste, I decided  
To be the first, not the second or third,  
For I was afraid of others' rush;  
I won and unleashed the whim.  
After the joy of a swing or two,  
I heard a knock, from inside, and knots of pain;  
And soon I felt  
The weight of my presence  
And the burden of thought;  
And, for the first time, I questioned  
The destiny of my sail.  
"To the Island of Caprice,  
Between East and West,  
I hope you will enjoy  
The wings of exile," was the answer.  
There I met a mighty nation of Blacks  
A nation of adopted wisdom and indigenous corps;  
Lassoed, from afar, by a foreign lullaby.  
I joined the slumberers and sang the song,  
And swore an oath never to fathom  
The mystery of the blue eyes.