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Author

Walker, Sonja

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BLACK EYES

by

Sonja Walker

*It is through black eyes
That I know where you are coming from
It is through black eyes
That I feel you are concerned
It is through black eyes
That I see your eyes are filled with anger*

*Black eyes burning with hatred
Black eyes reflecting all the years of pain,
torment, and confusion
Black eyes, eyeing of blue with disgust
and disdain
Staring into blue eyes, in a pigs eyes
The eyes that inflicted the pain again and again
Eyes of blue, eyes of terror, eyes of greed*

*Eyes that when they look at you
Seem not to be seeing who you really are
Blue eyes that spy at you from black
and white cars in the day, and helicopters at night
Blue eyes that do not see the real you
Because guilt ridden consciences behind the
eyes refuse to allow a true view of you to come through.
Eyes of blue that look over you, under you, past you,
around you, in front of you, behind you
Never really catching sight of you
But that is not reality*

*Reality is brown eyes, black eyes
Clear eyes, beautiful eyes
Deep, dark, mysterious eyes
Eyes filled with a new awareness
Eyes that will witness the destruction of many blue eyes
When millions of dark eyes all around the world, take aim
Crystal clear aim at the eyes that dared to claim
To search, explore and take that which was yours.*

*Black eyes, sensitive eyes
Serious eyes, expressive eyes, descriptive eyes
Visioning at time when you can just be eyes gazing off
into space
Black eyes perceiving of new ways and methods
To fashion in a new era*

Eyes rediscovering justice
Eyes that see with new insight and hind sight
Eyes that are out of sight
Black eyes making periodic observations
Analyzing, scrutinizing, and correcting present phenomena
Then rearranging these things into a coherent form
 reflecting a new direction
Black eyes that now realize
That new vision is necessary
Eyes that will see to it that justice is done
Eyes that defy the contradictions of human suffering in
 a world of wealth
Attempting to change these things

Black eyes, Black eyes
Finally seeing me
As I see thee
Through eyes that stare with wonder and mutual affection
Eyes that peer into the depths of one's soul
Hoping to reenvision a trace of the creative life that was
 once a continuous part of civilization
Black eyes, Black eyes
It is you. Beautiful, universal black eyes.

* * * * *

SONJA WALKER, whose poetry has appeared in *Nommo* and *Ufahamu*, is a senior at UCLA majoring in history. She has served as Chairman of Cultural Affairs for the Black Student Union, UCLA, and is presently First Vice-President of the undergraduate student body.