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THE A & T REGISTER

"COMPLETE AWARENESS FOR COMPLETE COMMITMENT"

VOLUME XLVIII NUMBER 53

NORTH CAROLINA A&T STATE UNIVERSITY, GREENSBORO

MAY 6, 1977

BLACK POETRY SUPPLEMENT

'A TOUCH OF SPRING'



Only You

Only you can bring the happiness
that adds a touch of spring
to one of any seasons
and to any little thing.

Only you can bring the sunshine
to my heart when clouds are gray
and give a special feeling to
the most unspecial day.

And, Darling, that's the reason
why all my dreams come true
cause my heart has been its happiest
loving only you!

Sylvia Gainey

Beauty: The Love Drug

Beauty is the culmination of mankind's
Deepest desire to please itself.

It can be seen in moments of
Despair or in the ultimate
of living.

When God said "Be" - Beauty
stepped forward before
all things.

All things drank the elixir of
Its being according to Divine design.

Passion became intoxicated
with the effects of the elixir-
and created Jealously-
the immature monster.

The monster chokes the
tenderness,

Stifles the harmony,
Turns cold the
Caress
of Love
and Love making.

Love is everlasting!!
Love is delicious
Love is reproductive
Love is reverence
of all Beauty.
Love is what is naturally
intended.

Rody

Existence

Existence is difficult, people must survive on their own
It's good to be amongst friends, but sometimes it's
better to be alone;

People search for existence with an eternal pleasure,
Nevertheless it's too short to be steadfast to a certain measure.
Take old memories and lock them away;
Exist for the present and future, and for whatever you possess today.
This way, people won't feel sorry for themselves anymore;
Nothing lasts forever and never did before.

Wayne P. Smith

Just Wondering

I wonder why I'm always wondering...

Thinking about losing
But always trying to win
Giving it my damndest
When others give in.

Thinking about making it
But not always so sure,
of which road to take
Will my future be secure?

Thinking about dying
But always trying to live

Thinking about taking
But always trying to give

Thinking about thinking
Oh well, just wondering.

Bill Pettiford

Renaissance

When she read
my poems
she said,
"They don't sound like you,"
I replied,
"Neither do I."

As the letters connect
from right to left,
The shrapnel of our minds
connect into a continuous function,
plainly visible.

Then,
from this pattern,
we venture out
into new frontiers,
unchartered regions,
undiscovered domains.

R. Abdul Khaalig

Soul Sister

Remembering back

*I once worked the fields in the summer's scorching heat
Just to buy shoes to put on my children's feet.
I'd come from the fields, tired, aching muscles, swollen feet
Scrub floors til 2:00 just to have food for my children to eat.*

Rape

*Yea, the white man raped my body of its most dearest charm
and then smiling walked away as if he'd done me no harm.*

Pleadingly I watched

*I watched as the white man traded my man and kids away
I remember it as clearly as if it was today.*

I recollect

*I remember when it was about time for us to be set free
The white man beat me 'til I shed blood tears, as I was tied to a tree
Yea, they beat me, used me, spat on me, and raped my high priority
Yet, they never could make me lose my identity.*

Look

*Yea, take a good long, searching look at me
Look closer and you will see the backbone of black humanity.
Yesterday - an a** full of blisters;
Today - a black, beautiful, foxy, soul sister.*

By Cynthia Patrick



the road

*It goes on and on forever; Since the beginning,
When one puts it down, it is picked up by another,
It is a perilous road, with many potholes and detour,
And it may not be the easiest to travel.
No roads are the same for two,
But there may be many crossroads and mergers,
Along this road one may encounter——
Laughter..., Success..., Happiness...,
Love..., Wealth..., Joy..., Tears...,
Heartbreaks..., Hardships... Rejection...,
Loneliness..., Sadness..., Poverty..., Evil...,
Goodness..., Failure..., Losses..., and, finally....
DEATH!!
For this is the road to life,
Picked up at birth and left off at death.*

Teiji N. Kimball

Alchemy

*broken pieces
scattered all about,
resisting silently
their reconstruction.*

*sub-atomic particles
in random motion,
looking for the best nucleus
to revolve around*

*Mass confusion
and disorder,
as the electrons collide,
mix and split,*

*rejecting unnatural organization,
and responding
only to light
from a pure source.*

R Abdul Khaalig

special thanks to:

We sincerely express our thanks to Ms. Mary E. Cropps, Larry Jenkins, Albert Leach, Benjamin Forbes, William Love, and Bill Lawson. We would especially like to thank MS. PATRICIA EVERETT for her time and consideration. Lastly, we would like to thank Mr. Bill Hinton and his associates for making this special publication possible.

the queen and the fool

*Two roses for two people who really love each other,
She's a queen and he's a fool.*

*She blesses the ground he walks on;
He takes her for granted, thinking that she'll always be there.*

*She treats him like a king;
He treats her like a pauper; always hurting-----Doing things
to make her cry inside.*

*She'll always love him and even though she'll never know,
he'll always love her.*

*She bears the pain and grits her soul; like true royalty,
He walks around as if he doesn't care.*

*One day he'll wake up and she won't be there-----And
he'll be lost.*

Only opening his eyes after it is too late.

*But it is only natural that they love each other,
Till the fool can treat her like a queen.*

Teiji N. Kamball

UNIQUE YOU

**The sun,
The moon,
The stars,
The sea,
are all UNIQUE.**

**For in their uniqueness,
they are beautiful.
You are unique; therefore
there can be only one you,
that can be loved by me.**

By Denise Brown



A Losing Battle

**Here I lie upon this ground
Shells and shrapnel flying all around**

**A well-put bullet has pierced my soul
I now have fears of never growing old**

**My friends, my buddies, they have all gone
And I am left to die alone**

**If it were manly, I'd surely cry
for simple reasons I know not why**

**For I shall die for no reason at all
This old war has given me a dreadful fall**

**My body, I doubt it shall be found
Being in a place where nobody's around**

**I, of all, shall die this day
And I shall leave this world, though not in my own way**

**No one's to mourn of my sudden death
tranquil I lay, awaiting my last breath**

**Many a foe and friend have gone into battle not knowing why.
For in the end, they fade from time, neither knowing why he had to die.**

Robert Spain

The afternoons are hotter now
But the books are at their peaks
It's three o'clock and most are finished
And this is no time to sleep

In the beginning, there was time for leisure
It wasn't as hot but there were things to do
Now everything is hitting the fan
Especially for me as well as you

Waiting for the last minute
To do the papers and readings
Some of us can't afford this
For risk of returning for the next breeding.

Michael Hailey

Untitled

**Beautiful women,
with full bosoms,
and well developed bottoms,
and immaculately charming faces,
smelling sweet -
like an early spring morning.**

**Beautiful women,
so numerous
and so common-place,
that their beauty loses its fascination,
and becomes just another piece
of post-Renaissance art.**

**Beautiful women,
who are indeed beautiful,
are beautiful in their heads,
and beautiful in their hearts,
but they radiate their beauty
only to those who have eyes to see.**

R. Abdul Khaalig

**You have an effect on me,
In so many ways.**

**You make me happy,
But most times, you make me sad.**

**Nevertheless, it only makes
The happy times happier.**

**Everything has its purpose,
Your purpose is to be loved by me.
My purpose is to love you from my soul.
Our purpose together is to be happy.**

MEC

**Sweet as morning rain,
in your eyes - the wonders of
THE WORLD.**

**Why, to love you one
lifetime would never be enough
For you I will surely need Two.**

**Sweet morning rain,
since missing you
Nothing's been THE SAME.**

S. Freeman

He Is...

Tall
 Dark
 Handsome
 Understanding
 Friendly
 Moody
 Mysterious
 Comical
 Gentle
 Intelligent
 and Loving.
 He is
 MY MAN.

By Denise Brown

Living Anew Seems the Same

An old place, shone anew,
 Dorms standing, sky is blue,
 grass awaiting spring's surprise,
 All becoming to my arrival,
 Seemingly so systematic, with organization
 Yet year after year old procedures of registration
 "This school's the joint," was said with no hesitation
 But now so deceiving like a dream vacation
 8'oclock, 9'oclock to a four o'clock class
 Lying in bed but I think I'll pass
 TV, parties, women and homework clashing
 While day by day in the cafe, potatoes mashing
 ID's, room keys, shucks where can they be?
 Looking and hoping for honesty
 "Hey Brother, Black Sister," blown out in the air
 the need of some backing, but nobody's there
 We're all insecure about this institution
 still upholding its reputation while the dorms are Kapoop.
 We'll fix it, we'll try it, and new band uniforms
 promises and not action, umph, no homecoming will form.
 See, we want what's ours and what our hard money did
 to build a better future for us, now that's no lie.
 We want to know that we feel it to be an Aggie in our hearts.
 Deprivation of our rights will commence us to part.
 Then who will go on to say, "Aggie born, Aggie bred. When I die I'll be an Aggie dead?"
 Knowing me, I will.

Stephen Parker



The Feeling

The warm breeze of a
 summer night
 The music stimulating
 my soul
 The stillness of the stars
 brighten the dark sky
 Your quiet touch
 on my face
 Your mystique eyes
 penetrating my body
 Your brown moist skin
 deeply embracing me
 The words I LOVE YOU
 mellowing through
 my mind

You are the Feeling.

Norman D. Jones



The Girl That I Love

The girl that I love is the cream of the crop
 Her undying love for me never seems to stop
 She is a queen among other beautiful faces
 And her presence is felt in my heart in every empty place.

She is my afternoon's delight
 And she's on my mind each and every night
 I'll put my trust in her and she won't let me down
 And whenever I need her she's always around.

She is the peace within that I find
 And being with her makes me go out of my mind
 There's no lovelier creature in the heavens above
 That God could have made than the girl that I love.

Anthony DeCarise Hines

Father

The only man I really
love
The kind of man I want
to be

Strong
Confident
Truthful
and Loving

He may fall
...but never hits
the ground

He may cry
...but never sheds
a tear

He may be hurt
...but shows no pain

He is my dream
I love you, Father,
...always and

...Forever.

Dedicated to my Father, Mr. Arthur L. Jones
by
Norman D. Jones

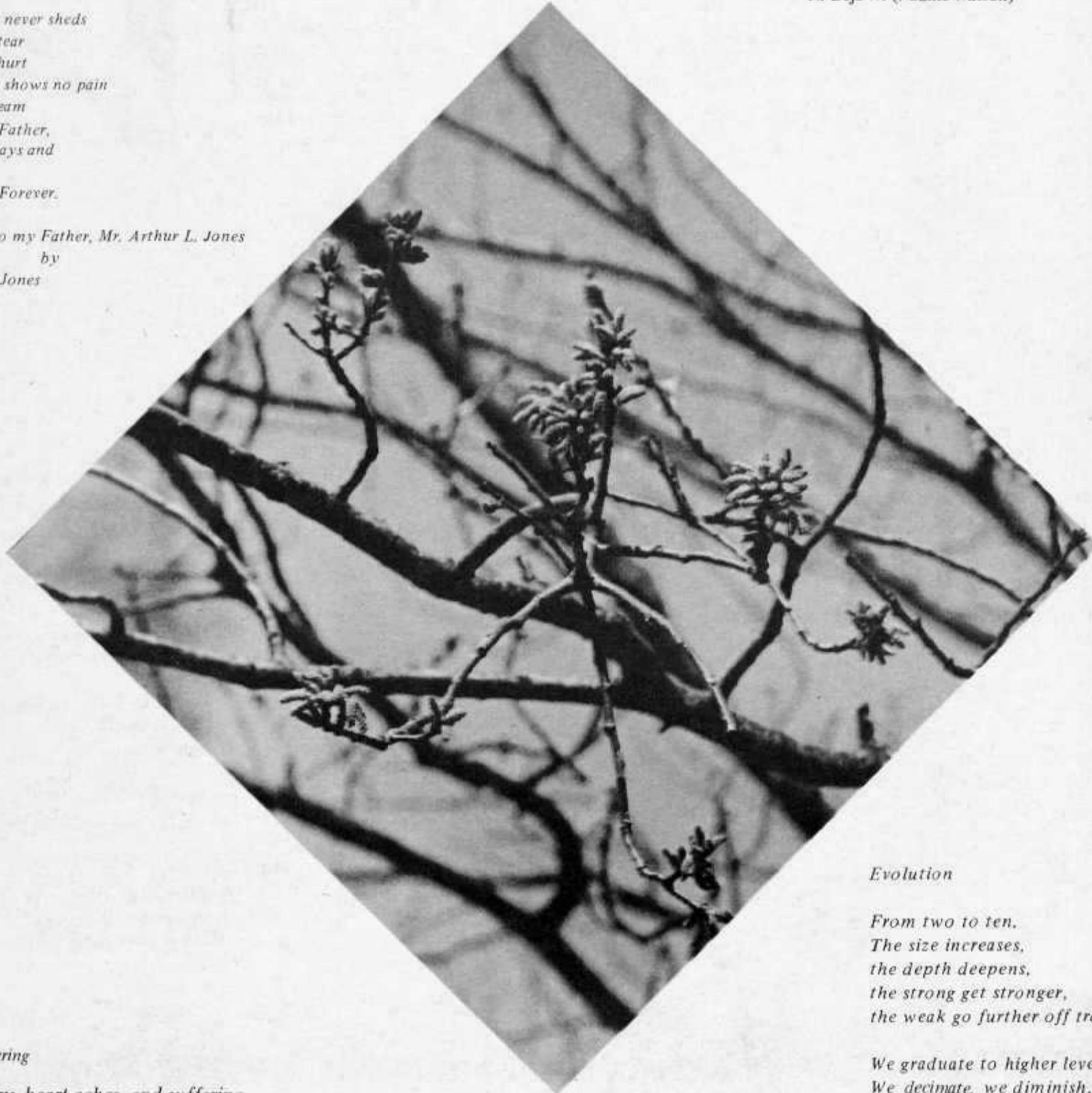
If there is righteousness in the heart,
there will be beauty in the character.
If there is beauty in the character,
there will be harmony in the home.
If there is harmony in the home,
there will be order in the nation.
When there is order in the nation,
there will be peace in the world.

Author Unknown

Took it all

The darkness came and took my light
The sadness came and took my happiness
The people came and took my solitude
The sound came and took my silence.
The storm came and took my peace
Then insanity came and took my mind
But, worst of all, the white came and took my Black.
Then surely death came and took my life.

N. Deja W. (Nadine Watson)



Remembering

To misery, heart aches, and suffering
I say:

I know you so well,
you will come in just a few more hours,
everything I am - you will destroy,
everything I am - you are not.

When I am bright, you are dark;
when I am warm you are cool.

I know you so well,
for you are the other half
of the wheel.

You are death while I am Life,
good while I am bad, the
end while I am the beginning.

How well I know you
and oh how true-
there's no me without
You.

S. Freeman

I've always been shy

I've always been shy
to slow drag
When my record came on,
'cept if it was Joe.
I mean we could go!
And grind
Whew! That man is MINE.
But I sho be shy
to slow drag
sometimes.

LaValle

Evolution

From two to ten.
The size increases,
the depth deepens,
the strong get stronger,
the weak go further off track.

We graduate to higher levels.
We decimate, we diminish,
We assassinate ourselves
through our ignorance.

Through our ignorance,
through our negligence,
through our conscious denial of truth,
we reject our inheritance.

As we oscillate-
like loose clothespins,
from one end of the line to another-
we pause for a moment...

to reflect...
to reclaim what we've lost...
to reconsider what we've tossed aside...
to re-evaluate our office...
as the fittest for survival.

R. Abdul Khaalig

If I had Known

*If I had known you were gonna be gone this long,
I would have made breakfast the last time.
If I had known you were gonna be gone this long,
I would have held you close just a little while longer.
If I had known you were gonna be gone this long,
I would have remembered the Close-Up toothpaste and the strawberry preserves.
If I had known you were gonna be gone this long,
I would have tried to give you the love you tried to give me.
If I had known you were gonna be gone this long,
I would have presented you with one of my best poems.
If I had known you were gonna be gone this long,
I would have to leave soon, cause I know, I knew it would not last long.
And you're gone and it didn't last long.*

By Nonie Norman

Black Woman

Beneath the skin which covers
the flesh
I see a woman
...inside
She is understanding
...and pleasant
She can tolerate this
violent world
And still care for the
one she loves
Together
Firm
and gentle
Wanting
Feeling
Touching the universe
She is the element of Man
She is a Black Woman
Soft
Sweet
and Warm
...my Black Woman.



Norman D. Jones

Rules of Love

Reassure me when I'm afraid
Miss me when I'm away
Keep good the vows you've made,
Believe in what I say;
Laugh with me
When I'm happy;
Cry with me
When I'm blue.
And when you love me...
Really love me,
Prove your love is true.
Correct me
When I'm wrong;
Stand by me
When I'm right.

Think of me
In the morning;
Dream of me
At night.
comfort me when
I'm lonely
Have faith
In what I do;
Follow me
to the end
of the earth;
As I would
follow you.
If I should lose my temper,
Please don't let us fight.
When you say
you love me,
Mean it with
all your heart.
And if you really mean it,

Even death can't make us part.
Forgive me when I'm not myself.
Try to understand.
Just put your arms around me,
And gently hold my hand.
God bless you when you say your prayers
The way I pray for you.
And ask Him with all your soul,
To keep our young love true.
Keep these rules of love
With everything you have to give.
For rules were made
To be broken
Our love
was made
To live!

I love you!

By Sylvia Gainey



Tranquility

*All is peaceful
When the sun goes down
And the illuminated moon
Ascends upward to its nightly bound,
When the misty dew falls upon the
Supple grass that grows in the fertile
Soil. All is peaceful, when the flowers
overnight they blossom with pollen nectar
For the buzzing bees. When the
cool but breezy wind lulls, and
the auburn leaves almost cease their
deciduity. All is peaceful when the
asperity of the sea calms to placidity.
When the day has served its purpose
and turns to the darkness of night,
Tranquility prevails when all is peaceful.*

By Dee Cooper

Untitled

What am I to do
when you insist on making my life
your private joke?

Do I laugh
or do you prefer

a blush?

What am I to do
when I can feel your silent laughter
bouncing up against my
fragile ways of living?

Do I pretend not to notice
or do I search within

my personality
and destroy
all those things
which always make you laugh?

By Pat Everett



Blackstone Branch Library '76

browsing indiscriminately,
with no conscious direction,
one always manages
to stumble upon, to discover
something previously unnoticed.

the unrestricted, unacademic
search for truth bears fruit
and rewards its searcher
with image-creating power

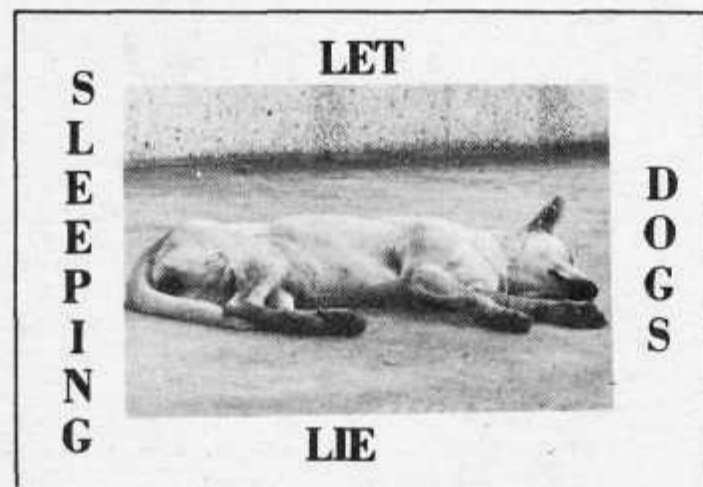
what is a poem? if not
an expression of a need for something
not satisfied by prose and other
genres of literature, as classified
by those who classify?

with image-creating power,
one can develop new forms,
evolve new arts,
fashion new worlds, and
deliver people from their darkness.

arise and be free
with your image-creating power.
Stretch your imagination and
transform it into reality and
then you will be free.

our imagination is our most
priceless asset. with imagination
we can reupholster all creation.

R. Abdul Khaalig



Why?

Why do we die from starvation
While thru' technology we could feed the nation
Why do we have to strike for a better working conditon
When placing people first is the nation's tradition
Why do we have to be neglected

Until money for bills is to be collected
Why are we mistreated and pushed aside
While simultaneously expected to abide
Why do we belong when it's time to fight wars
And when they're over, face the same closed doors
Why are we essential in order to produce

But treated with selfishness and abuse
Why are we paid so little for the work we give so much
The obvious answer is to keep us on a crutch
Why are we engulfed with poverty and oppression
It's because of a few people obsessed with possession.

By Shelia Farrington

Class

*Classes are a pain
If you know what I mean
They give you headaches
And make you want to Scream.*

*You have so many troubles
And don't know where to turn
But that's part of college
So you can learn*

*They make you upset
And then you want to quit
But when you've done wrong
You feel your world is about to split*

*But you have to work on it
And try to do your best
So when it's time to leave
You're ahead of the rest*

*By Chippy Bullard
Alias
Al Green*

Day Dreaming

The afternoon passes on while
the sun sets
A lazy spring evening
has passed again.

By Carla Jones



For You

If I had a wish,
 That wish would be for you.
 If I had a dream,
 I'd dream of you.
 If I could own the world,
 I'd give it to you.
 And You would say "thank you",
 And smile at me
 And I'd go in search of other worlds for you.

MEC



With Your Permission

The words I long
 to speak won't be CARVED into
 stone,
 The story of my love
 for you, won't go down
 in history as The Greatest
 Story Ever Told.
 All my dreams won't come
 true, and I won't
 be able to pull stars down from the sky
 for you.
 What's more, I will never be
 able to right all
 the wrongs I've done
 you.
 I won't be able to build
 you a house on a
 hill - though I'd
 like to.
 But-
 no matter what, I won't
 stop loving you - not now
 not ever!

Stephen Freeman

A Comment on Your Betrayal

I'm going to be perfectly honest
 about how I felt
 when you left,
 I can only compare it to
 my sadness at the age of ten
 when Julian Bond got married
 and left me loveless in Greensboro
 That almost sweet,
 melodramatic
 sadness
 of losing something
 you never really had.

Sylvia Gainey

TRIAL AND ERROR

I tried to be nice to you,
 You took my niceness as cheesing.
 I tried to be kind to you,
 You took my kindness as weakness.
 I tried to be concerned about you,
 You took my concern as being noseey.
 I tried to care about you,
 You took my caring as being a fool.
 I tried to help you,
 You disregarded me and denied my help.
 I tried to love you,
 You hated me and tried to destroy that love
 I tried to tell you several times that
 You destroyed the beautiful impression
 I HAD OF YOU.

PAT MCKOY



Abstention

Is abstention present in all love?
 Or should I feel bad because I find it necessary to
 abstain feelings.
 It could be deficiency in love or just a form of self-
 preservation
 If I say it all until there is no more,
 What would happen to me if you left?

Wayne P. Smith