

I ENVY

I am created to envy
With poets poem, Emerson's essay,
Toy's and Dostoevsky's fiction
Gogh's, Angelo's paint, Malcolm and king's diction.

Comes here one of the prominent
Brooks, black woman poet
With her "The Bean Eaters"
To express poorness.

I envied with her again
By the ways she knocked at my brain
Putting men's fate and division
Using her denotation and connotation.

Said she,
Those two old yellow black pair
Who do not have good dinner
Because they are poor
Eat beans as casual fair.

Said she,
Two who are mostly Good.
Two who have lived their day,
But keep on putting on their clothes
And putting things away.

Said she,
Because they can not afford the front
Took the back side of the building for rent
Filled the room with twinklings and twinges
Beads and receipts and dolls and cloths, tobacco crumbs, vases and fringes.

Impressed by her expression
Denotation and connotation
Asked my self what I can
Write, paint, or run?

Where is my share of intelligence?
From the given to human race
That enables to me express
Like poets, painters, writers and speakers
That saves me from envies.

Belachew Gelahun,
July 2005
Triggered by Brook's "The Bean Eaters"

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The views reflected in the above poem/article are solely of the author and are not necessarily shared by Meskot. You may contact Belachew Gelahun for comments at belachewg@yahoo.com.