

# POET'S CORNER

## Black Sunshine

By Bimbubwa B. Khalfani

As you stand there my eyes admiringly behold  
the beauty in which you possess.  
The radiance, The brilliance,  
The essence of your being  
Simply leaves me speechless.  
Your strength, your power,  
Overwhelms me so,  
My tongue refuses to speak.  
How can I say it?  
Where are the words?  
Your blackness is just so...DEEP!  
It shines, It glows,  
It mesmerizes me,  
Through your eyes I see the fire in your soul.  
My joy for you I can no longer contain,  
your beauty I rejoice to behold.  
As I look at you I realize who you are  
The value you hold is divine,  
You are my substance.  
You are my life.  
You are my Black Sunshine.

## The Most Dangerous Brother

By Keith A. Brantley

The most dangerous brother in the world has nothing to lose.  
His losses are cut and it's easy choose.  
From the bottom,  
directions are easy to see  
risks don't cost and chances are for free.  
There is no value to a cost free life;  
violence becomes outlet  
to his pain and strife;  
and victims are many, too many to count  
statistics shall rise, as the tension mounts.  
For those with tomorrows  
and losses to measure,  
it's best that you protect  
the things that you treasure.  
If it's within your power  
to extend some hope,  
find that brother, and help him to cope;  
Because he's out there and angry  
and his fist is curled.  
He's unloved and desperate;  
the most dangerous brother in the world.

## Kwanzaa

(A Tribute to Dr. Maulana Karenga)

By Derick Wickliffe - Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc.  
Kwanzaa, the first fruits of the harvest,  
is part of my African-American theme.  
I celebrate my culture with dignity,  
While fulfilling my goals and dreams.  
With kinara on table, my ancestral values  
are celebrated and symbolized,  
By candles of red, black, and green.  
Gifts of handmade dolls and drums  
are exchanged among my family,  
While my uncle explains what umoja means.  
On the sixth day of Kwanzaa,  
Kuuma can be expressed through a heart-warming song.  
And Black-owned businesses can bring about ujamaa,  
While helping to keep our communities strong.

## They Said

By Timothy Bowman

We are all equal, is what they said  
Then why did so many brothers and sisters'  
blood have to shed?  
They said that one day we would all be free....  
So why is that so hard to see?  
They said give it time and things will change...  
Lord, Lord, My Lord, tell me  
is it me? But things seem to be the same.  
They said, Trust Us, for we came to show  
you a better way....  
and can you believe they are saying the same thing this very day?  
Can we really believe what they say?  
Or has time proven one simple fact that whatever is said....  
WE ARE STILL BLACK!!!



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## AFRICAN-AMERICAN HISTORY THURGOOD MARSHALL (1st African-American Supreme Court Justice)

By Gwen Walker

Thurgood Marshall came from a long line of fighters. He was born July 2, 1908 in Baltimore, Maryland to William and Norma Marshall.

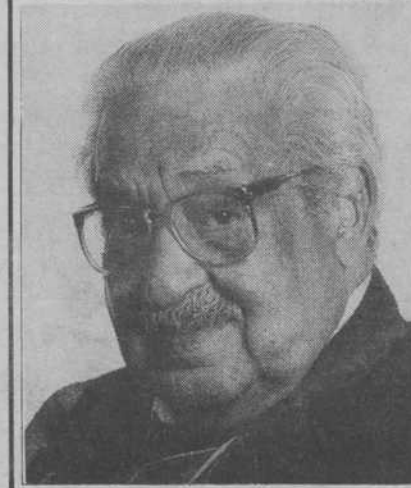
His great-grand father was a slave brought from the toughest part of the Congo. During slavery, his great-grandfather was so full of fight that his owner set him free and asked him to leave. Later he wanted to fight in the civil war, but he didn't have a first name. His great-grandfather made up his own first name: Thorough Good. This is how William came up with the name Thurgood for his son.

Thurgood's father liked to fight with words. Thurgood, his brother Aubrey and their father would sit around their home and argue about anything. This was the beginning of him realizing that he wanted to be a lawyer, not a doctor as his mother wanted.

In 1933, he began to work at the NAACP chapter in Baltimore. In 1936, he began to work at the NAACP headquarters in N.Y. City. In 1954 he won his case of Brown vs. Board of Education of Topeka. In 1955 he married his second wife Cecilia Suyat. In 1961, he was named Judge to the United States Court



GWEN WALKER



of Appeals for the Second Circuit. In 1965, he was named Solicitor General of the United States. From 1967-1991 he served as justice on the Supreme Court.

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