

# POET'S CORNER

## The Joy of Joy

BY Kamau Khalfani

The sweet taste of fruit on a summer's day, your gentle perfume causing my head to sway. That special look you get in your eyes, that look that neither of us seem able to deny. You are so full of passion, not just some sexual toy, very simply put you are the joy of joy.

## Debts and Deeds

By Keith A. Brantley

Listen to the sound of strong backs breaking; Your mother's tears and fathers' aching. Never forget the sound of the whip. Wounds haven't healed and time hasn't slipped. We are here and now and we owe a debt; Let's pay the piper before we forget. The piper has played and we know the tune; The no justice Blues and we all croon. Remember our fallen and the weakest of our strong. From Lift Every Voice to the Redemption song. We are the strength this society lacks and the power is ours to straighten strong backs.

## God Our Merciful Father

By Rev. Jacob Bryant Moore  
from "Homage of the Saved"  
Unpublished Copyright 1991

God, our merciful father, whom holdest  
Our lives in the veil of tears;  
Figures of character good thou mouldest  
Our buttress in strength for years.

God, our merciful father, infusing  
Each stoic notion begun,  
All compendiums spirits pursuing,  
Statues through thy will be done.

God, Our Merciful Father, inept be  
We at our service; mercy  
Justifieth any soul that may flee  
Inveterately to thee.

God, Our Merciful Father, we confess  
Thou art the initiator  
And sustainer of life's grand happiness,  
Save us near though you be far.



## SWEET FEST IN SEATTLE

Life got very sweet for guests attending a desert reception sponsored by Miller Brewing Company as part the recent West Coast Black Publishers Association (WCBPA) Convention. Taking a break from the Viennese table, WCBPA President Bernie Foster (top photo, center) is pictured here with Noel Hankin (top photo, right), Miller's director of corporate relations, and Al McFarlane, publisher of St. Paul, Minn.'s Insight News. Below, Midwest publishers Bill Garth (far left) and Al McFarlane (2nd left), Atlanta Publisher John B. Smith and Sheri Colas, Miller's manager-priority market relations, celebrate the company's longtime partnership with the black press.



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