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Experimenting With Endarken[ing] Feminist Epistemology

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Experimenting With Endarken[ing] Feminist Epistemology

Writing Goals

i really should be writing right now. not poetry. prose.
i really should be writing right now. but hesitation preempts my thought
i really should be writing right now. the clicks are getting louder.
ambient noise speaks to me and now I'm hearing voices.

"Did you write today?" – Aunt 'Nessa

I'm suddenly, but always mentored.
Sometimes I'm ~~scared~~ no, intimidated... nah,
that's what Beckys think.

It's fear.

Name it.

I'm scared to say the wrong thing.
To make the wrong impression.
To be too quiet, too humble...

when I let my guard down and was just... *human*, I got a lot of attention.
I asked a question that made them think:
Preparation?

For what?

After, they remembered, they recognized. They thanked me.
Eyes lit up with wonder about what I thought they should say next.
But I didn't have an answer.

I can't tell you what to say, what to write...
That's not my job (and y'all don't pay me ~~enough~~ at all for this).
I can only say what words I'm removing from *my* vocabulary.

i really should be writing right now. but I ran out of paper.
then I was interrupted.
and they're talking in my office now so I got up and moved.

I REALLY SHOULD BE WRITING RIGHT NOW!!!!

But two wise people once told me that "thinking is writing"
People who threw some D's on their names. So you know it's real.
Put sum' respeck on it!

I really should be writing right? Now.

For now, I'll reminisce.
Think about how Queen Mother said she loves me.
How she told me, "keep shining!"

I am, *and* I'm also getting darker. Endarkening.
Melanin poppin. #BlaqGirlMagic
Because enlightenment is bullshit and I don't even wanna be woke anymore.

I really should be writing, write now.

But I just wrote 3 pages.
Shiiiiit...
And it's single-spaced!

Dear Aunt 'Nessa and Queen Mother,
I'm listening. I'm writing. It's happening. (But I really should be writing. Now.)

I guess I'll work on the abstract.

Ways of...

endarkening
demonstrating
transforming
becoming

realizing
resisting
surviving
recovering

healing
thriving
living
being

doing
awakening
caring
sleeping

Literacy Test

the library is a great babysitter when you're broke.
not broke in the monetary sense (though that too),
but in the social capital sense.

I just think it's funny how library cards aren't proof of citizenship.
It's like you gotta give a blood sample to get one.
They finally let us read but they're hoarding books.

That's how they hide the curriculum.

Affrilachian?

i tried to wash my hands of the blood but it's stuck
in the cervices, corners and underneath my fingernails.
the blood is laced with soot and earth.

CSI West Virginia really needs to happen
it's happening. (The UN is looking into it.)
The Appalachians are dormant, but don't sleep.

You think this shit is a coincidence?
This is where the bodies weren't buried.
Coal bordered this land.

We're all equal if everyone's face is Black.

Psychosis

My mind is searching for the answers.
But that means it asked a question, and that alone is a problem –
I'm talking to myself again and confirmation bias is a thing.

breathe.
just exist, peacefully.
whatever "peace" is

"Woke"

There's no word for cotton in sign language.
We've got one though.
I guess only the people who pick it can be literate.

You know our money's still printed on it right?
Cotton came to Harlem a long time ago but Blaxploitation is still a thing.

We just got a museum now.

Transition

You woke yet?
I've been awake for a minute.
I heard 'im yellin on the quad once it was light out.

JANE [clap] CROW [clap] AIN'T [clap] GOT [clap] NUTHIN [clap] ON [clap] ME [clap]!!

Now what?

It's the beginning of the end.
winter came and went. it's spring now
Time to fight.

Authors Note

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