

ZAM MWEN SE YON PLIM

Mwen menm,
Mwen egziste.
Mwen se yon Nèg
Presizeman yon Nèg Nwè
Ke yo te kaptire zansèt li
Depi lontan lontan yon kote ki rele Afrik
Tout Zanzèt mwen yo
Te esklav k ap Bourike

Mwen menm,
Mwen egziste.
Mwen se yon Nèg
Yon Nèg Nwè ki fèt lwen Afrik,
Tè Zansèt yo
Mwen se yon sòlda
Men yon sòlda ki gen kòm zam
Yon plim senpman
Chak gress bal zam nan se yon mo diferan
Zam mwen pi puisan pase epe
Chan batay mwen se yon moso papye
Ènmi m yo se:

Abi
Analfabetis
Babarism
Deskriminasyon
Egoyis
Esklavay
Esplwatasyon
Grangou
Inegalite
Iyorans
Mizè
Rasis
Segregasyon rasyal
Seksis
Vyolans

Mwen menm,
Mwen egziste.
Mwen se yon nomad
Paske m toujou
Ap monte desann sou planèt sa a ki rele Latè.
Wi, sa gen sans: fè vayevyen pou obsèvè
Ak de gress je m sa k ap pase
Ozalantou inivè tou won sa a.

MY WEAPON IS A PEN

I am,
I exist.
I am a Man
Precisely, a Black Man
Whose ancestors were captured
A long long time from a place called Africa
All of my Ancestors
Were Buffalo soldiers

I am,
I exist.
I am a Man
A Black man born away from Africa,
The Mother Land
I am a fighter
But a soldier whose weapon
Is only a pen
Each bullet is a different word
My weapon is mightier than the sword
My battlefield is a piece of paper
My enemies are:

Abuses
Illiteracy
Barbarism
Discrimination
Selfishness
Slavery
Exploitation
Hunger
Inequality
Ignorance
Misery
Racism
Segregation
Sexism
Violence

I am,
I exist.
I am a nomad
‘Cause I am always
Moving around on this planet called Earth.
Yes, it’s worth moving around to observe
With my naked eyes what’s going on
Around this round universe

Mwen menm,
Mwen egziste.
Mwen se yon elèv
Ki lekòl toujou
Yon elèv nan Invèsite Lavi
Yon invèsite ki gen yon branch tout kote
Kote tout moun se elèv e pwofesè alafwa
Mwen pa peye paske frè eskolarite gratis

Mwen menm,
Mwen egziste.
Mwen se yon moun k ap reve
Tout tan m ap reve Libète
Nan rèv mwen, m wè batayè libète kouwè

*Frederic Douglas
Harriet Tubman
Jean-Jacques Dessalines
Jose Marti
Malcom X
Marcus Garvey
Martin Luter King
Nelson Mandela
Simon Bolivar
Toussaint Louverture*

Mwen tande chante kouwè
Blues,
Day-O,
Deep River,
Kende Ayere,
Ma Teodora.
Melodi yo fè m
Santi m gen fòs fòs fòs
Lè m gade pa lòt bò
Kontinan, montay, oseyan, rivyè ak vale yo

Mwen menm,
Mwen egziste.
Mwen se yon Nèg,
Yon Nèg Nwè
Mwen se yon sòlda
Mwen batay nenpòt lè:
Maten, apremidi ou aswè.
Zam mwen se yon plim.

I am,
I exist.
I am a student
Who's still in school
A student at the University of Life
A university that has a branch worldwide
Where everyone is a student and a teacher
I pay no fees 'cause tuition is free

I am,
I exist.
I am a dreamer
I dream all the time about Freedom
In my dreams, I see freedom fighters like

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I hear songs like
Blues,
Day-O
Deep River,
Kende Ayere,
Ma Teodora.
Their melody makes
Me feel strong strong strong
Continents, mountains, oceans, rivers and
valleys

I am,
exist.
I am a Man,
A Black Man.
I am a soldier
I fight at any time:
Morning, afternoon or night.
My weapon is a pen.

