Ayanna and Tandaji

The West Wind blows to the east.  
The East Wind blows to the west.  
Joined together, they now flow as one,  
    One life,  
    One love.

Our love shall light the candle  
To lead to a new life, a life together  
    Of struggle,  
    Of sharing,  
    And of giving.  
A love that gives and a love that takes,  
    One life,  
    One love.

Our love will create new life.  
Our love will shelter old life.  
Our love will burn during the joy of youth.  
Our love will shelter us during the storms of middle life.  
Our love will nourish us during the wrinkling of old age.

Our love will strive during the spring of life.  
Our love will grow during the winter of life.

To Ayanna and Tendaji,  
    One life,  
    One love.

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Nothing But A Man

What are you?
   I am a Baptist.
   I am a Jew.
   I am a Catholic.

In spite of all that,
You are what you are.

What are you?
   I am wealthy.
   I am poor.
   I am a communist.

In spite of all that,
You are what you are.

What are you?
   I am a man.
   That’s what you are.
You are what you are.
   In spite of your beliefs,
   In spite of your money,
You are nothing but a man.
Jazz

Jazz is to poetry
   As the egg is to sperm,
   As yin is to yang,
   As man is to woman.

When jazz embraces poetry,
The muse explodes
To create a dancing orgasm

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Farewell To Playa Careyero

Farewell to the emerald tides which touch the sky.
Farewell to the *pisces de mar* who swim and swim.
Farewell to the foamy waves which caress the sands.
Farewell to the golden sands which kiss the sea.

Farewell to the mystical turtles who lay their magical eggs.
Farewell to the brown pelicans who soar and dive.
Farewell to the savage bluffs, frozen in a permanent erection.
Farewell to the verdant palms which shake our spirit.

Farewell to the palapas with their eternal roofs.
Farewell to the crazy *Gringos* with their everlasting spending.

Farewell to today,
As we await tomorrow’s greetings.

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Resistance

You may poison our wells;
   We will resist.
You may break our bones;
   Resist we must.
You may bulldoze our homes,
   We will resist.

We will resist
   To the last drop of our blood.
Once the seeds of freedom
   Have been planted in blood.
The winds of freedom
   Will blow these seeds
   Into your wicked heart.

You may throw our bones into a barren desert.
They will sprout forth a beautiful rose,
Whose vines will strangle the enemies of the sun,
Those who
   Plunder,
   Rape,
   And murder.

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Freedom

All tyrants beware;
The winds of freedom
    Will spring up like a wildflower
    To choke the weeds of greed.

Yes, freedom is a wildflower.

Like a hurricane, the winds of freedom
    Will blow from the east to the west,
        From the north to the south
    To break the chains of slavery.

Yes, freedom is a hurricane.

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The Nigger Rose

I am the nigger rose.
Don’t water me.
Don’t nourish me.
Don’t prune my vines.

Blame me for my dwarfism.
Blame me for my wildness.
Blame me for my ugliness.

One day my thorns will get you.
Heroes

Fuck Huey, Christ, and Mao.
Look into the mirror.
Become your own hero.

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