



### Ode to Nothing

By Sawyer Phillips

Oh Nothing I do hold so dear,  
 Oh Nothing do I love.  
 From Nothingness we came to here,  
 I praise the Nothing that's above.  
 I go to kiss, with both my lips,  
 the Nothing that is near,  
 And when I need and want it most,  
 Nothing does appear.

Oh sweet, sweet Nothing  
 You are what fills my mind,  
 And deep within my true soul  
 Nothing lives and Nothing shines.  
 Nothing brings me joy so sweet:  
 An everlasting light.  
 I'll be with you eternity,  
 For Nothing will I fight.  
 And now at present, Nothing's gone away,  
 For Nothing, it does stay.  
 I'll play for you the sweet guitar  
 For Nothing, does it say.

Nothing do I care for more,  
 Than anything at all.  
 And in the end it will be so,  
 To Nothing I will fall.  
 Nothing! What a gift you've been,  
 And I give you back to all  
 Nothing matters most in life,  
 Yes, to Nothing we'll all fall.

### Beneath the feathers of heavenly wing

by Owen Hudson

Beneath the feathers of heavenly wing,  
 I lie among the clouds in tranquility.  
 Golden gates of luxury cascade a ring  
 Around me, the trumpets call in symphony.

For I, the surveyor of fields of down,  
 And rising tides in silken pirouettes,  
 Stand abreast with the drafts of comfort sewn.  
 I sink into the earth's warm silhouette.

The very strike that sparked the hearth of earth,  
 Transcends from these forgiving corridors.  
 And yet the time has come to leave my berth,  
 To part with such embalming paramour.

Though the flame of the day's trials may burn,  
 To the palace of rest I shall return.

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### Untitled

By Anonymous

I'm the living echo of my late father  
 And I will die by the same hand

I do not feel emotion  
 No, ghosts do not feel emotion

The absence of emotion  
 And no memories  
 A lighter can only do so much

The gray has faded from my eyes  
 The blue lurking

Is it love  
 Is it a trap  
 How can two things be one?

I don't believe in paradoxes.  
 So then, how can I die by the same hand?

### I am from the Ys Falls

by Rheanna Perrin

I am from the Ys Falls,  
 from the colourful beach balls and cushioning  
 sandals.

I am from the enormous Mango trees that hung  
 over the slippery roof,

From the green plums and over-ripe breadfruits  
 that tasted unpalatable

I am from the white sandy beaches, the tall co-  
 conut trees combined  
 with the melting sun, that made me feel pleasant.

I'm from the nightly prayers and dark skin,  
 From Diana, Floyd and Jack Stephens.

I'm from the long beach walks and welcoming  
 smiles.

From respecting adults and the ghost is going to  
 get you,

I'm from singing soothing hymns and going to  
 church.

I'm from St. Elizabeth, Jamaica, the breadbasket  
 parish.

I'm from the body of my friend found floating in  
 the Gallon Beach and the many times I fell from  
 the guinep trees.

Over my head hung framed pictures of long gone  
 relatives and the baby that I evolved from. I am  
 from the place where we skank all night and  
 where the scent of dishes triggers your saliva.

### Explanations

I wish I didn't have to explain my way of life and/or the things I do,  
 Or how that ONE word I say isn't acceptable if you do,  
 I wish that every time I change my hair I'm not met with stares and reaching fingers,  
 Or when I say no you can't touch my hair I can get rid of the awkwardness that lingers,  
 I truly hope that I can stop explaining #blacklivesmatter,  
 The fact that I have to say that my life matters should be the self explanatory factor,  
 One day I hope I won't have to explain why my experiences are different because of the color of  
 the skin I'm in,  
 In reality I'm just hoping that the whole world realizes that we're all kin in different skin,  
 I get tired of explaining why you should ask before you touch my hair,  
 Or why you should treat others of different skin tones with a little bit of care,  
 Or because my skin is darker you should fear,  
 I get tired but I'll do my best,  
 The day I won't explain will never come because educating others will be the way we overcome  
 nevertheless.

Malkia Blake