

POETRY IN BLACK

"Getting Hurt" Poetess Inspiration



Carolyn Jackson reads the Chronicle during time of relaxation.

This is the 5th in a series of articles entitled "Voices in Black Poetry." This week's feature is Carolyn Jackson.

When you get your mind really wrapped up emotionally and you get hurt by one that you care for avidly and trust infinitely -- one will sometimes become depressed! Not only that, but to have someone look at, because you are black and accuse you of taking an item of practically no value when you know you are innocent and have no use for the same... One has a tendency to feel a

deep hurt that can only be expressed to the maximum by letting it flow freely through the pen. Hence, the writing of a poem, "Black Child."

Carolyn Jackson, 28-year-old mother of three girls says, "I started writing when I got my feelings hurt." Ms. Jackson chose not to expound or call names of the people or individuals that were directly responsible for hurting her most, but rather to speak about the positive inspiration that she has received.

She has always loved writing poetry but refused to share her poetry or thoughts with others because she felt that it was not only insignificant but not really good enough to share. Within the last 12 months, however, she has taken a different outlook on her work, her life, and her general feelings about being a poetess. States Ms. Jackson, "I found that once I start writing, I can hardly write fast enough -- ideas come and I feel perfectly free letting my feelings flow! I can let my feelings come out in words.

"For example, one of my poems Self Reflection was written one day as I looked into my bathroom mirror and tried to figure out what I really was. I was feeling depressed, yet trying to act happy. I looked questioningly at myself and seemingly as my reflection 'looked back at me'

the words started to flow and I began to write the poem."

Gradually, as time moved on, Carolyn began to become more aware of the way poetry not only allowed her to see herself; but express herself and to communicate with others as well.

In her writing, Carolyn notes, "My poetry is mostly philosophical...I don't write too much above love-- however, through my experiences with love, I simply speak of love as a good teacher."

In her "Revelation of a 'Black Man'" (Chronicle Publication-Jan. 17 issue) the poetess says she wrote this as a satire on religious fanaticism. "I had gone through the process of being 'saved' but I became so fanatical that I went to the point of being phony as well as complacent. I really saw myself for what I was and dealt with it. I have nothing against religion but the approach that I was taking just didn't seem realistic -- so I wrote about the real way that I as a person felt.

Carolyn's daughters are six, seven and eight and the one daughter Robin, seems to have a "bend" for poetry writing also.

In speaking about her plans about her poetry writing in the future Ms. Jackson smiles and says, "I plan to do more, MUCH more! I might not succeed but I am going to give it one heck of a try!"

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COMING EVENTS

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Chronicle Writer to Speak

James Smith, staff writer for the Winston-Salem Chron-

icle will be the keynote speaker for the Senior Missionary Department of Mount Olive Baptist Church Sunday at 6 p.m.

The church is located at 1301 E. Belews Street. Rev. C.E. Greene is pastor.

Smith is organist at Hanes Memorial C.M.E. Church.

The program is being held in conjunction with "Black History Month."

Mrs. Annie Pearson is president of the missionary department and Mrs. Annie Frazier is program chairman. Mistress of ceremonies will be Mrs. Brenda Miller.

GRADUATES TO MEET

Graduates are reminded to meet Saturday - 6:30 p.m. promptly at McLean's Stenographic and Tutoring Service, Bruce Building. BUSINESS OF IMPORTANCE and REHEARSAL.

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