

## Kyle DA Daniel-Bey

### *Dear Society*

Dear Society...

I want to thank all of you  
for all the lessons you've taught  
All the wisdom too  
For the back breaking  
baby killin  
maiming, slayin, & raping too  
For teaching us a place  
not necessarily our place from which to view  
the march of nations  
of rampaging civilizations  
How the strong eat the weak  
& hell, even some of the strong too  
You taught me not to trust  
especially my own kind  
While showing how progress can only  
be gained w/ me & mine  
Thank you for showing us  
insanity can be survived  
That a blood-shredded back was  
for someone... a good time  
Thank you for the babies raped into being  
then stomped into oblivion  
Mothers' stomachs slit while they scream & cry  
as they hang from tree limbs.  
Thank you for the men  
servile & spineless crows named Jim  
Who nevertheless rose up, time after time  
& time again  
Whose right to rule was a tool  
of those w/ the lightest skin  
Thank you for the show  
w/o an ounce of substance  
Thank you for the businesses looted  
cahooted & burned to the ground  
For the education w/o a place  
at the table to make us proud  
Thank you for the shacks  
dilapidated hovels & projects

For the grassless yards, needle strewn parks  
& dead end apartments  
Thank you for the schools that fall  
down around our ears  
The books... oh the books  
whose only truth is our tears  
That tell your story & steals ours  
w/o respect or fear  
Those books, subject to the Texas Board of Education  
yet haven't been renewed in years  
Thank you for the system  
that under the guise of education for all  
Yet feeds our boys (& some girls)  
into the penal system's voracious maw  
Thank you again for the laws  
those crooked as a broke-back snake laws  
That w/o pause, exposes our flaws  
& capitalizes on them w/o any just cause  
That tells its stormtroopers that our lives  
aren't worth anything at all  
That tell young blonde school teachers that  
our young men only want their draws  
That equips its street gestapo w/ the latest  
in military castoffs  
Tanks & APCs, automatic rifles, vest & grenades  
Night vision scopes for those dopes  
who hang on roofs or even high up in trees  
Thank you for the harshest lessons  
those only to be learned in time  
That our weaknesses & our strengths  
you will turn to our eventual demise  
That I should trust my own people  
yet never trust my own kind  
That if two of us get together  
watch out for numbers 3, 4, or 5  
That even my own momma will  
w/ the right incentive, spit in my eye  
That my father, like old Cronus,  
will eat his own offspring, one at a time  
I thank you for all these things  
each cut, nick, & slice  
For the knowledge that each imparts

& for the lessons that the truth bites  
for forging us in the crucible  
of your worldview & your fear  
For making us accept some things  
that couldn't have been made clearer  
That you are our enemy  
having been so from day zero  
That we don't need a savior, messiah  
or lone-gun-type hero  
No, we are that foreordained  
Ordained & sought light  
That blade in the darkness  
That slays ignorance with light  
We are that salvation  
bought & paid for in blood  
So thank you dear society  
You created what's about to come