CONTENTS

Introduction by Gwendolyn Brooks	11
Poems	
THE AIR I HEAR	19
IMPULSE	20
SHOTGUN	21
MAYIBUYE IAFRIKA	23
COULD BE	25
RANDOM NOTES TO MY SON	26
TO MOTHER	28
TROPICS (for melba)	30
MY PEOPLE NO LONGER SING	33
TO A BLACK WOMAN, INSANE	32
death doses *2	33
SONG FOR MELBA	34
TO GLORIA	35
TO MY DAUGHTER	30

IVORY MASKS IN ORBIT (for nina simone)	37
SIFT AND SHIFT (for ed spriggs & all my friends known and unknown to me)	39
VECTOR OR LEGACY	41
BLEACHED CALLOUSES, AFRICA, 1966	42
THE LIP TRICK	44
THE NITTY-GRITTY	45
TIME	46
NEW DAWN (for afrika, asia, south & afroamerica)	47
INHERENT AND INHERITED MISTRUSTS	48
SYMPTOMS	49
FLIRTATION	50
CONDITIONED (or educated kaffir style)	51
INNUENDO	52
AXIOMATIC	53
BANDUNG DANCE	54
FOR AFROAMERICA	55
NO CELEBRATION	57
IN THE NUDE	58
OF YESTERDAY'S TOMORROWS	59
ЕРІТАРН	60
LIKE THE TIDE: CLOUDWARD	61
NO TEARS IN THE TIDE	63

	9
TOWARDS A WALK IN THE SUN	64
THE SPEARHEAD WIND STRIDES	67
THE GODS WROTE	68
BROTHER MALCOLM'S ECHO	70
THE LONG REACH	71
THE NEW BREED (for don lee & mazisi kunene)	72
FOR EUSI, AYI KWEI & GWEN BROOKS	73
RECREATION	74
WHEN BROWN IS BLACK (for rap brown)	76
MY NAME IS AFRIKA (for nqabeni mthimkhulu)	79
POINT OF DEPARTURE: FIRE DANCE FIRE SONG	80
I. THE ELEGANCE OF MEMORY	80
II. LUMUMBA SECTION	82
III. FIRE DANCE	83
IV. SPIRITS UNCHAINED: (for brother max stanford)	85
FOR SONS OF SONLESS FATHERS	86
NOTES FROM NO SANCTUARY	87