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NOTES ON CONTRIBUTORS

MICHAEL HARPER directs the writing program at Brown University. His books include *Dear John*, *Dear Coltraine* and *History Is Your Own Heartbeat*. His poems in this issue are reprinted by permission of the University of Illinois Press from *Nightmare Begins Responsibility*, © 1975 by Michael S. Harper.

AL YOUNG, who has taught writing and literature at Stanford and U-Cal at Santa Cruz, is currently a Guggenheim Fellow. His books include both fiction (*Snakes* and *Who Is Angelina?*) and poetry (*Dancing* and *The Song Turning Back into Itself*). A new novel, *Sitting Pretty*, and a new collection of poetry, *Some Recent Fiction*, will be brought out in the spring of 1976 by Holt, Rinehart & Winston.

DARWIN TURNER is chairman of Afro-American Studies and professor of English at The University of Iowa. His books include *In a Minor Chord: Three Afro-American Writers and Their Search for Identity* and several anthologies. His anthology of Jean Toomer's uncollected writings will be published by Howard University Press this year.

ROBERT HAYDEN is professor of English at the University of Michigan. His new book, *Angle of Ascent*, will be published by Liveright-Norton in the fall of 1975.

ALICE WALKER is the author of *In Love & Trouble* and *Once*.

RALPH DICKEY (1945-1972), musician and translator, is the author of *Leaving Eden* (Bonewhistle Press, 1974). His poem in this issue is reprinted by permission of his literary executor, Michael Harper.

GAYL JONES' novel *Corregidora* has just been published by Random House.

RAYMOND R. PATTERSON lectures at the City College of New York. He is the author of *26 Ways of Looking at a Black Man and Other Poems*.

SHIRLEY WILLIAMS, the author of *Give Birth to Brightness*, will have a book of poems out next fall.

WARING CUNEY was born in 1906 in Washington, D.C. His works include *Puzzles* and *Storefront Church*.

ALVIN AUBERT teaches at SUNY-Fredonia. He is editor of *Obsidian: Black Literature in Review* and author of *Against the Blues*.

ISHMAEL REED's newest book of poetry is *A Secretary to the Spirits*. His most recent novel, *The Last Days of Louisiana Red*, won the 1975 National Institute of Arts and Letters Award.

ANN duCILLE is an instructor of English at Hamilton College in Clinton, New York.

STERLING A. BROWN's books include *Southern Road* and *The Negro in American Fiction*.

GWENDOLYN BROOKS needs no introduction.

ETHERIDGE KNIGHT's most recent books are *Black Voices from Prison* and *Belly Songs and Other Poems*.

DUDLEY RANDALL is a librarian at the University of Detroit. He is the author of *After the Killing* and the editor of *The Black Poets*.

AI is the author of *Cruelty*. She is living again in Arizona.

GEORGE BARLOW lives in San Francisco. His first book of poems, *Gabriel*, was published in 1974 by the Broadside Press.

AUDRE LORDE is the author of *The First Cities*. Her poem in this issue is reprinted by permission of *The Village Voice*, © 1974 by The Village Voice, Inc.

ANTHONY McNEILL, who comes from Jamaica, has taken an M.F.A. at Johns Hopkins.

SONIA SANCHEZ is the author of nine books and is a mother, professor, poet, and playwright.

JERRY WARD, assistant professor of English at Tougalou College, is an advisory editor of *Black Box* and *Obsidian*.

JAY WRIGHT teaches at the University of Virginia.

LUCILLE CLIFTON's books include *Good Times* and *Good News About the Earth*.

MARI EVANS is the author of *I Am a Black Woman*.

CALVIN FORBES teaches at Tufts University. His book, *Blue Monday*, was published by Wesleyan in 1974.

EVERETT HOAGLAND is an assistant professor of English at Southeastern Massachusetts University and the author of *Black Velvet*.

JUNE JORDAN's books include *Some Changes* and *Who Look at Me*.

PRIMUS ST. JOHN teaches at Portland State University in Oregon.

MARGARET WALKER is the author of *Jubilee*.

PHILIP BRYANT is finishing an M.F.A. at Columbia University.

JAMES BLAKE is the author of *Behind the Mask*. He teaches at San Diego State College.

GEORGE BUGGS is finishing study in creative writing at Brown. He has published a volume of poems, *Music from the Middle Passage*.

SAMUEL ALLEN is a lawyer who has turned to letters. He now teaches African and African-American literature at Boston University.

HORACE COLEMAN teaches creative writing and Black literature at Ohio University.

RON WELBURN is the author of *Peripheries: Selected Poems 1966-68*, published by Greenfield Review Press.

REGINALD LOCKETT is a native Californian and has appeared in many anthologies of Black writing.

QUINCY TROUPE's second book of poems, *Ash Doors and Juju Guitars*, will be published by Random House in the spring of 1976.

MELVIN DIXON has returned to Stamford, Connecticut, after a year and a half in Paris, and is revising his first novel.

JOHN McCLUSKEY, JAMES A. McPHERSON, and ALISON MILLS are introduced by Al Young in his editorial comment.

SARAH WEBSTER FABIO, currently studying and teaching in the Afro-American program at Iowa, is the author of a seven-volume series of poems, *Rainbow Signs* (1973). She has been writing another play, *No Crystal Stair: Steps to Emancipation*, and has been preparing a book for Doubleday called *Black Talk*.

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