The Souls of Black Folk

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the souls of black folk

where was condoleeza when the levees broke?
at ferragamo’s buying leather shoes
while water christened the souls of black folk

forced to wear the reaper’s gruesome cloak
brothers and sisters of different hues
where was condoleeza when the levees broke?

our people’s cries didn’t matter as she spoke
defending bush on the sunday evening news
while souls submerged in water were those of black folk

birmingham sistah was all but a joke
turned a deaf ear to our blackest blues
where was condoleeza when the levees broke?

so many of her promises went up in smoke
waiting for a president’s belated cues
while smothered beneath water lay souls of black folk

day after day in fear they awoke
praying on rooftops as if they were pews
where was condoleeza when the levees broke?
while water crushed the souls of black folk