

Something inside so strong

**The African American Caucus**

**Known to get raucous**

**Speaking truth to power**

**By the hour**

**Not known to cower**

**Nor a shrinking flower**

**Well known around town**

**Deserving of their Crown**

**Generous**

**Conclusive**

**Often effusive**

**Never abusive**

**Always inclusive**

**Descendants of African Royalty**

**Brutalized by historic cruelty**

**Thrown into the ocean waves**

**Perishing en masse without graves**

**Colossal scale of separations**

**Long overdue for reparations**

**And still you rise!**

**We got millennials and boomers**

**Sheros and Heros!**

**Cross generational, cultural, and emotional**

**George is our Giant – subtly defiant**

**We got Faith!... that young righteous Sista!**

**The Distinguished SMILEY... regarded highly**

**Alphonso Mayfield, our Thurgood Marshall**

**our ever vigilant Muslim Brother Bashir**

**will let you know what you won't wanna hear**

**Veronica Turner... our Angela Davis**

**April Verrett, never met a threat that she'd regret**

**Gerry Hudson... unapologetically unapologetic, heretic...**

**Our Malcolm X**

**Forward ever**

**Together**

**Backward never**

**Arm in arm**

**We mean no harm**

**However...**

**Caucasian guilt**

**Like spilt milk**

**Gotta get down for the fight**

**To make shit right**

**Can no longer hide**

**The insidious Stain**

**That has caused centuries of pain**

**A price must be paid**

**For the 100s of years of delay**

**Dismantle white privilege**

**& it's accompanying supremacy**

**Rip it out by its roots**

**It's foul stinking stench**

**Infected the human race**

**Have they no grace?**

**Justice denied**

**Our ancestors tried**

**Too many have died**

**It's time we make the journey**

**To the freedom side...**

*Something inside so strong!!*

*Monica Russo, New Orleans, 4/22/2017*

**A Tribute to the freedom fighters, founders, leaders & members of the SEIU African American Caucus on the Auspicious Occasion of AFRAM's 20 year Anniversary**