RECIDIVIST
TURNED
ACTIVIST

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2018
You are about to read a collection of inspirational poems (and gems) extracted from the transformed mind of an Activist who used to be a habitual offender.

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R. BAKER
BEAT THE SYSTEM

How do we
beat the system
is the question
I will ask,

I'm not implying
we case a bank
and then rob it
wearing a face mask,

I'm alluding to
setting our minds on
changing from within,

where we transmute
the felonious mentality
that led us to the pen,

I'm talking about
developing a mind set
that improves our condition,
where we take responsibility and we stop volunteering to put ourselves in prison.

I'm talking about making that 180° turning ashes into beauty, where we learn our lesson and become a blessing to our broken community.

We can't beat the system by violating parole and returning to jail.

We beat the system by walking off parole and stop occupying a cell.

Instead of wasting time in other people's business or complaining about our condition,
We need to set our minds on never ever again putting ourselves in prison.

We must be cognizance of who we associate with and how we utilize our time,

Don’t be so preoccupied with strengthening your body that you underdevelop your mind.

We must realize that we entered prison with shackles on our mind.

To stay out of prison we must leave all those shackles behind.

We must treat the department of corrections as a wise man’s university.
where we utilize
all the available resources
to correct our mentality,

transforming our lives
from dysfunctional
to pro-social citizen,

is the best way
all of us can
beat this system.

GEMS:
→ stop identifying yourself with
  who you used to be.
→ start identifying yourself with
  who you suppose to be.
→ give responsibility the same
  loyalty you gave to irresponsibility.
→ don't leave prison still a
  prisoner.
UNTITLED

Does my brown skin pigmentation, make me prone to incarceration?

Or is my provocative accusation, a mere figment of my imagination?

Is the color of my beautiful skin, one of my biggest sins?

Or is my victim mentality, trying to conceal my irresponsibility?
Does my abundant melanin make me inherently inferior?

Does your lack of melanin make you inherently superior?

Is my Ethnicity the root cause of my poverty?

Or is my immaturity the root cause of my missing prosperity?

GEMS:

→ Don’t let the mess you left behind define you or hold you hostage. Let it refine you and use your “Mess” as your “Message.”
It seems like some African-Americans expect someone else to fix our broken environment.

Instead of joining forces and combining our resources to give ourselves agency to better our predicament,

It seems like some African-Americans subconsciously adopted the white racist ideology.

They hate black people constantly look down on them, can't stand being around them and talk about them stereotypically.
They hate being black trying to be white is their main priority, living next to whites and being accepted by them gives them validity.

It seems like some African-Americans only talk about the inevitable disparity between black and caucasian.

When it comes to the disparity amongst blacks they have no conversation.

It seems like some African-Americans only point to the toxic hatred between black and caucasian.
when it comes to
the hatred amongst blacks
they have no conversation.

GEMS:
→ Depraved mind sets and corrupted
  behaviors are learned, so they can
  be unlearned.

→ Remember your corrupted passions
  and desires are trying to set
  you for failure and lead you
  into bondage.

→ Put off your lower self with
  its corrupted passions and desires
  and put on your higher self.

→ Be a blessing, not a burden, to
  other people, especially to women.

→ Never let your anger or negative
  emotions think or speak for you.

R. BAKER
THE UNIVERSE GAVE ME A VISION

One fall night
while gazing into
the Infinite Universe
I was blessed with
a profound revelation,

The elegant Moon
changed her colors
from Red, Black to Green
this was truly a
breath-taking illustration,

Multiple stars united
forming a constellation
a cosmic widescreen
translucently displaying
the following vision,

I saw wise Blackmen
from state to state
changing their hearts
correcting their behavior
transforming in prison.

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They re-entered society with re-newed minds and regenerated souls, a brand new creation.

Incarcerated Blackwomen followed their example. African-Americans constituted 5% of the prison population.

As a result, every department of corrections closed down prisons and cut their staff.

More tax dollars were allocated for STEM: Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math.

Father absenteeism no longer existed lifting the heavy burden off our women shoulders.

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The generational disconnect became a thing of the past the youth sought guidance from their wise elders,

Broken public schools became great learning centers closely reminiscent to Ancient Egypt and Timbucktu,

Domestic Relations office laid off all their staff Homicide detectives had no cases to pursue,

Black Social Entrepreneurs heavily invested in Africa positive African-American images flooded every form of media,

African-American Doctors created a new cure that wiped out breast cancer and sickle cell anemia.
Sexual Assault vanished
Women were treated equal
as an African-American Woman
ascended to the office of President.

Misled white supremacist
recklessly abandoned hate
racism lost its appeal
crooked politicians started to repent.

I couldn't believe it
I felt tears of joy
flowing from my eye.

The vision became blurry
I saw a great ball of fire
as a huge crack divided the sky.

GEMS:
> Surround yourself with three kinds of people:
  1. Those who sharpen you,
  2. Those who will walk by your side,
  3. Those who you sharpen.
So-Called Christian Nation

How could a true Christian nation be proudly established on white domination?

Don't believe the hype or fall for the indoctrination we reside in a so-called Christian nation.

How could a spirit-filled nation blatantly practice Aboriginal extermination.

Then manufacture a false white doctrine to veil their theft of this wretched nation.
How could a one percent white elite control a Christian nation.

How could a God-fearing nation practice covert foreign government manipulation, interfering in foreign elections, setting up puppet administration.

Then after a proclamation of emancipation, maliciously enact a Jim Crow legislation.

A nation under grace purposely dehumanize its African population.

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How could a exceptionally great nation intentionally prohibit women from voter participation, or practice voter suppression separate and unequal unfair gender compensation.

How could a nation in Christ lead the world in mass incarceration, or have an occupying police force that abuses the minority population.

What kind of sanctified Christian nation purposely misinforms 85% of its population, with a plethora of modern day media that specializes in persuasion.
What kind of judeo-christian nation, consciously participates in pagan holiday celebration.

Thank you to all those caucasians who fought and fight for African American humanization.

Shame to all those ignorant white congregations that practiced and practice non-biblical race segregation.

Please show me that exact scripture that specifically mentions Black inferiority and white superior predestination.

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Please show me the exact scripture that specifically mentions Christ's white pigmentation or any kind of denomination, white supremacy and Christianity, the church and state need to experience a permanent separation.

This is when the Holy Bible can really influence our broken nation.

GEMS:

1. Let people make their point without cutting them off. Don't attack them personally. Challenge their point humbly and peacefully.
2. Don't dwell on how you fell in that hole. Focus on getting out and staying out of that hole.
I RATHER....

I rather
all of us eat
than one of us
starve or go hungry.

I rather
strive to build up
instead of tearing
down my community.

I rather
look at your potential
instead of looking at
your imperfection.

I rather
have a purpose in life
instead of wandering
with no direction.

I rather
forgive your trespasses
instead of holding
a toxic grudge.

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I rather
let the universe judge
instead of trying
to play judge.

I rather
speak to my circumstance
instead of letting
it speak to me.

I rather
exist as an asset
instead of existing
as a liability.

GEMS:
→ Never read meaning into Holy
  Scripture. Always read meaning
  out of the text.
→ Don't leave prison still a
  prisoner.
→ Address your issues or they
  will address you.
WHAT GOOD IS IT

What good is it
to pay homage
exclusively on Sunday,

Then live in bondage
for the next six days
serving the adversary,

What good is it
to know the Holy Bible
From Genesis to Revelation,

Then when it comes to
making the word flesh
we see no application,

What good is it
to always point to
the next man's sin,
when you worship idols
like an gentile pagan.
What good is it
to go out of your way
to help a stranger or other,

Then coldheartedly
turn your back on
your mother or brother,

What good is it
to pray to your creator
asking for removal
of a toxic habit.

Then foolishly refuse
to let it go
when the universe
tries to grab it,

What good is it
to leave prison
the same person
that came in,
Foolishly picking up the same vices that helped you land in the state pen.

What good is it to hold on to the past when hope lies ahead,

Letting negative energy and negative people rent space in your head.

What good is it to use material possession to validate self-worth, knowing you can't take nothing when you depart this earth.

What good is it to pick and chose what scripture to follow, or worrying about the future when no one is promised tomorrow.

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