

# Evening Heat

In the Evening Heat  
under sweat clinging sheets,  
with a mini-blind moonlight shower,  
I sleep...

Interval sleep, first light then deep,  
I am awakened by a small boy's grinding teeth,  
and the passing regret that in the summertime,  
all the babies sleep with blackened feet.

For there are no rules about socks and shoes  
on a sidewalk playground  
Summer beat  
the blues of mid-July,  
come August all rules fly

I am the Sad Eyed Lady of the Lowlands  
of whom the prophet Dylan  
says will have no man,  
and I sleep spread eagle and I don't care  
about beauty come morning  
my smell or my hair.

And yes, I have loved as deep as my depth.  
And then I have seen every love affair's death.  
But I keep the faith and I do pray yet,  
that I don't sleep alone too much longer,  
because,

In the Evening Heat  
smoldering asphalt cools,  
to make way for geranium kisses,  
strawberry jewels,  
glowing in a trellised flower bed,  
softly lit by a porch light  
60 Watt overhead,  
This lady's phony false alarm  
to ward off the serial killers that charm,  
when either the moon is full  
or the heat wave persists,  
under ceiling fan dreams  
spinning Tea Party Madness  
while bedroom windows flirtily beckon,  
"Come hither..."

But the Righteous, and the Innocent,  
and the Sad Eyed are saved,  
as the danger hour passes  
and the lowlands are bathed  
in the Blue Light,

The promise we'll  
open eyes to sun scathe,  
mini-blinded by the light  
of just one more  
mid-July day,

Blinded,  
by the Light...  
Awake.

Yvonne de La Vega



Los Angeles Poet Yvonne de la Vega has recorded Spoken Word with numerous great names in the music and recording industry, including tracks produced by Ray Manzarek of The Doors. She features on "Jump Street" with Herb Alpert, (A&M Records) a Spoken Word and hip hop single that showcases her poetry with Alpert's music. She appears on Malcolm McClaren's "Round The Outside, Round The Outside" album (Virgin Records), with a poem by Garcia Lorca. She has also appeared on several spoken word recordings that producer Harvey Kubernik produced for New Alliance Records, her recording peers consisting of Amiri Baraka, Michael McClure, Wanda Coleman and others.