



Black Presence: A Gathering of Words

by Black GEMS

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Abundancy

Making time,

taking our space

Dreaming -

being in dialogue with our dreams while awake.

Refusing demands of care labour: choosing to tend and care
with one another

We deserve this, time to dwell,

to just be.

What else do we want to dream of beyond what we have now?

What it means to stay

with gentleness.



Thinking beyond time as something "out there".

Time as an orisha, time as rhythms.

Making time for us to be (in our own beautiful experiments).

Dialogical, relational, and how when we gather as Black
people,
we gather

all these different possibilities

to see/be with the world.

What it means "to sit with each other's writing in
progress".

Where do you have Space to Dream?

The gathering work is meant to create space for us to feel
brave as well,

because we can feel rooted in ourselves and

feel connected through that...

New tunes,

new notes,

new rhythms.

Different rhythms aren't legible to everyone

and there are reasons for that.

Embracing unknowability.

What else do you get to dream of beyond the words that you have to use in this world?

What else do we want to dream of beyond what we have now?

Revolutions and the sun.

"revolutions are just evolutions happening again and again" -
Oluwatosin (Wasi) Daniju

Stretching the possibilities of meaning,

Black people's different cosmo visions.

Thinking beyond time as something "out there" (again).

Repeating and remixing,
returning to our words and worlds,

creating more space

for us to breathe through

Commitment to care and gentleness,

recognising the knottedness,

the messiness of our connections

across different contexts.



Thinking about playing across these categories
that were designed to constrain
and constrict our bodies.

What it means to be very care-full in our careless
institutions

that were not designed to home our bodies.

We deserve to be careless with those registers.

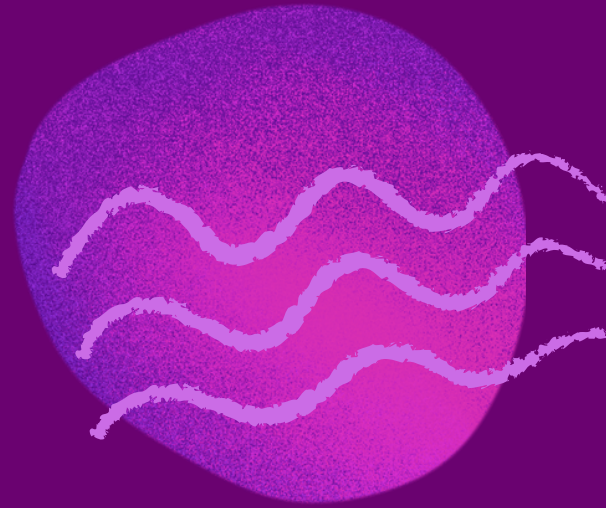
Thinking about what is in the gathering,
releasing

into the atmosphere.



What it means to move away from possessing,
to think about releasing,
and then
connecting it to dreaming.

This is the space of playing,
of playing with words,
playing with our worlds.



Playing with the way we're breathing through it,
Releasing.

Space to think and dream
without needing to know where your dreams are going.

Playing with the way that we breathe through these moments
and release our breath.

Returning to who we want to be.