Whither World?

Ikeogu Oke

*Journal of Hip Hop Studies, Special Issue If I Ruled the World: Putting Hip Hop on the Atlas*

Volume 6, Issue 2, Winter 2019, pp. 13 – 14
DOI: https://doi.org/10.34718/mm92-hk77
The Tupac Shakur Memorial Poems/Songs

Ikeogu Oke

A Sequence

No. 2: Whither World?

(For Rap Music, to the Memory of Tupac Shakur)

Where is the world going,
With all its reaping without sowing?
And where with those without a care
That its ways with most are so unfair?

_Chorus_: Everywhere I look, I see a sign
That aches and cramps this soul of mine.
By the world’s wrongs I’m so appalled
That I stare and wonder, “Whither world?”

Where is the world going,
With many sowing without reaping,
And rich folks who don’t give a damn
While they gain from such a scam?

_Repeat chorus._

The slum of nations, the ghetto of minds,
The chain of squalor that binds
The poor – I still see these from where I am,
And wish for a change that’s not a sham.

_Repeat chorus._

The earth may spin upon its axis;
Orbit the sun, at the speed of light;
But like those who slug its taxis,
It’s hard to advance with all its blight.

May be rapped, preferably, or sung, like the rest of the lyrics.
Repeat chorus.

And when will humans heed my call
To make their planet fair for all,
To let justice ascend their throne,
That every dog may have its bone?

Repeat chorus.

A meaty bone to eat with play and pleasure,
Rolling on the lawns with a sense of leisure,
And without a leash from any master
Waiting for its neck right there or after.

Repeat chorus.

A juicy bone to grind with play and pleasure,
Hanging out alone with a sense of leisure,
And without a chain for the happy creature,
Happy with its lot and with man and nature.

Repeat chorus.

February 1, 2018