

Poetry Series

# **Tamika Stubblefield**

## **- poems -**

**Publication Date:**  
2010

**Publisher:**  
Poemhunter.com - The World's Poetry Archive

# Tamika Stubblefield()

## Baby of the Family

The youngest of five  
I was born alive and ready  
The year was seventy-three  
Mom bore four before me  
But I was my daddy's first

Grew up a Black Panther child  
Free and running wild  
My mom would smirk  
That's girl's a Bird  
And so I was named

Never knew the difference between  
Dark skinned or light  
We was all black  
And that was what was right

Education would be my ghetto pass  
Momma proved that  
Dragging me to class  
On her back

Yeah times was hard  
But I never knew  
How hard  
Cause I didn't lack  
Anything

Sugar water substituted kool-aid  
Out of bread and honey, doughnuts were made  
Tuna fish was like steak to me  
Who said we was poor?  
I had it good!

My childhood memories  
Are full of fun times  
Halloween and Christmas parties

Bruce Lee Movies only a dime?  
Saturday morning cartoons  
Playing Barbie in my room  
House full of love, laughs  
And Family

## 4 Mos Def

Your style  
Is so profound  
Without even making a sound  
Your presence  
Astounds  
I believe  
When you were conceived  
You must have received  
God's gift of lyricism  
A true poet's wisdom  
So amazingly blessed  
With mere words  
You have possessed  
My soul

Tamika Stubblefield

# After The Date

Will you  
Fantasize about me  
Tonight?  
The thickness  
of my lips,  
softness of my skin  
will you beckon me  
into your dreams?  
To do things  
To me there  
That you dare not  
Do in person  
Will you  
Wake  
With my name  
On your lips?  
Reaching for me  
As the light  
Cast liquid shadows  
Across your bed  
Will you think of me tonight?  
I will of you...

Tamika Stubblefield

# Cancerian (Moon Child)

I catch a glimpse  
Of you  
Through the trees  
Your radiance-  
Overwhelming  
Tonight,  
You are dressed in pale pink  
As if you are blushing

Your fullness has caught my attention  
I am intrigued by you  
I search you out again  
But my view is blocked  
The train is moving so fast  
My eyes want to linger upon your beauty  
But you are lost behind shadows  
My heart sinks  
Knowing how seldom you appear to me this way  
And suddenly- you step forward  
As if you tasted my salty tears of abandonment  
You tower above  
I feel so small in your presence  
As you give full view of your heavenly body  
Nothing could bring me more pleasure  
Than to touch you  
Become one with you  
But with the rise of the sun  
You disappear- faintly  
Like a ghost

Tamika Stubblefield

# Cinquain #1

Someone  
Please save me from  
Myself cause I can not  
Stop being afraid of these words  
That come

10/30/02

Tamika Stubblefield

## Cinquain #2

Running  
From destiny  
I trip over my fear  
Landing in the pocket of Faith  
Safe-ly

10/30/02

Tamika Stubblefield

## Cinquain #3a

Alas

I must accept

Loves light has dimmed on us

Like the setting of the sun we

Must sleep

Tamika Stubblefield

## Cinquain #3b

Alas

I must accept

Loves light has dimmed on us

And like the tide from the shore we

Must part

Tamika Stubblefield

# Closure

Last night  
I wrote a letter to my lover  
Swimming with silky sorrys  
of my wrong-doings-  
Humble acknowledgments  
of dishonesty, fear, doubt

Last night  
I gave my lover a letter  
and walked away in silence  
there was nothing more to say

Last night  
My lover read my letter  
and did not call me  
did not feel me

Last night  
after having rid myself  
of the letter  
I felt much better  
And did not cry myself to sleep  
All that I had to give  
was in those words  
that I wrote with my heart

Last night  
I found closure  
Peace

Tamika Stubblefield

## Dawn (Haiku)

Sun rises to kiss  
Sky. She blushes intensely  
Clouds weep. Earth is born

Tamika Stubblefield

# Giving All

HERE I STAND  
WITH MY HEART  
IN MY HAND  
MY SOUL  
EXPOSED  
I AM NOT AFRAID

I STAND HERE  
WITH LOVE  
LOVING YOU  
AS GOD DOES  
WITHOUT JUDGEMENT  
OR CONDITION  
YET YOU CLOSE YOUR HEART  
AND DO NOT LISTEN.

9.21.99

Tamika Stubblefield

# Got Game?

brotha's be trippin' sometimes  
approachin' sista's with those lines:  
"hey baby! "  
"how you doin'? "  
"I don't care if you got a man,  
    I can treat you betta than he can."  
First of all brotha,  
Let me tell you this,  
You don't even know my name  
Yet you continue to kick your game  
And I may be smilin'  
But inside I'm dying  
Cause your breath...  
Is killin' me!  
Take a step or two back  
Show me some respect  
Use your intellect  
And stimulate my mind  
Instead of plannin' how to get me in bed,  
Ease on up inside my head  
Speak to my soul  
You see it takes some skill  
You just can't be all up in my grill  
To win my attention and affection  
So take you time  
Polish up your lines  
Because I am a woman

Tamika Stubblefield

## Haiku #1

Drawing you nearer  
Unsure if you should resist  
I am seduction

10.9.02

Tamika Stubblefield

## Haiku #2

Drunk with desire  
Passion, unable to quench  
A sweet hangover

Tamika Stubblefield

## Haiku #3

If I hear one more  
Love poem, I swear I just might  
Explode into bits

Tamika Stubblefield

## Haiku #4

The light of dawn casts  
Liquid shadows across my  
Bed where you once lay

Tamika Stubblefield

# I Like Being Brown

I like being brown  
Caramel with red undertones  
I love my thick lips and wide nose  
I can create kinky masterpieces from my locks  
And yes my round hips can be seen for blocks and blocks

These things are part of my culture you see-traits, characteristics  
Yet they don't define me  
They don't tell you that I don't like to fly  
And am sometimes afraid of the dark  
You can't tell by them that on Saturdays  
I take my son to the park  
My intelligence cannot be seen in the color of my skin  
The thickness of my lips does not tell you what kind of person I am  
You may assume from my kinky locks that I am a certain 'type'  
But only by knowing my heart, can your predictions be right

See whether you are red or tan, white, yellow or brown  
With curly or straight hair, eyes slanted or round  
Be proud to show love for your culture and your heritage  
And celebrate your fellow man as he shows pride in his

Tamika Stubblefield

# In And Out Of Love

In

Like night  
when all is calm  
Like dusk's pink rose skies  
Like honeysuckle vines so sweet  
Is love

I remember you  
in summer smiling softly  
Like a silent breeze

My spirit seeks to  
seduce your soul with her song  
so in your heartbeat,  
to your rhythm, I will dance  
like fireflies on June nights

Out

If I hear one more  
love song,  
I might just explode!  
Why lie with lyrics?

Singing songs like she  
doesn't even exist while  
making love to me,  
images of her smile dance  
Wildly in your cheating heart

No more  
songs about love  
cause you don't love me and  
my soul is rebelling against  
abuse

Tamika Stubblefield

# Just Me

You know how some people  
Are just met to be petite?  
They can just eat and eat and eat and eat  
And not gain a pound  
Remain as slim as can be?  
Well that's not me...

You ever seen those model chics  
Tall and bone thin  
Strutting down runways wearing  
Size zero dresses?  
I count my blessings  
Cause that's not me....

Then of course there are those  
Brickhouses  
Tight jeans and even tighter blouses  
36-24-36?  
All that ass and hips  
I got  
But for the rest...  
Well as you can see that's not me

I'm in that other category  
You know  
The less heard of story  
I'm a Big Girl  
Ain't no need to mince words  
Fat, rotund, obese, chubby  
Heavy, stout, plump, pudgy  
Yea, that's me  
Ain't no shame to my game  
I don't have no thyroid condition  
And I ain't big-boned  
I don't fool myself into believing  
That all I need is to get a little toned.  
No...I'm a Big Girl  
And I don't have no worries  
I eat what I want

My vision is not blurry from  
No anorexic stunts  
I digest my food and keep it down  
Don't count calories - Don't count pounds  
I'm healthy and that's all that matters to me  
And now for the morale of my story  
Stay true to yourself  
Whatever your situation may be  
Give thanks to God  
Be humble  
Be free

2003

Tamika Stubblefield

# Midnight Blues

Sometime after midnight  
Lonely lurked in my doorway  
dressed in a hue of blue

He rat-ta-tat-tattered on my window  
and when I did not answer,  
wafted through my openings  
with the wind

Lonely slithered silently up my stairs  
gathering splinters of heartache along the way  
He passed by rooms where memories of love lay dormant  
unattended to and forgotten

Lonely came straight to the place where  
rejection sulks in dusty corners  
and joy is immersed in a well of my tears  
gasping for breathe,  
Life

Lonely has come  
cloaking my desire in blue hues  
claiming my heart  
his home

2003

Tamika Stubblefield

# Monday

Thunder jolts me awake  
5am  
Blurry vision clears to reveal  
Monday  
Workday  
Weekend's end  
Reality kicks in

Showered and dressed  
Hair a mess  
I don't wanna go!  
My inner child groans  
As I slip into my mask

Raindrops plunder mercilessly  
Please God  
Let a tree  
Be struck down  
In front of me

Dragging feet  
Life's too sweet  
To be spent slaving for a 9 to 5

Staring at this computer screen  
Meetings, deadlines  
Trying not to scream

Feeling completely confined  
Escaping only in my mind  
But they want ownership there too

Let me be free  
of this misery  
I write and  
I pray  
But still comes  
Monday

2003

Tamika Stubblefield

# Poetry Undefined

Poetry is a great many things  
to each poet you see,  
Poetry even has various meanings  
as to what it is to me

Overall,

Poetry is the means  
By which my heart communicates,  
My mind finds the words  
For these feelings and translates

Sometimes,

Poetry is my lover  
My fantasies he fulfills  
Beckoning me to crisp, white sheets  
where my blacks and blues I spill

Or,

Poetry comes as a mysterious moon  
appearing softly in the night,  
age old secrets of the universe  
he reveals to me with his light

See,

Poetry is my spirit  
the connection to the Divine,  
It lets me see what I am to be,  
let's me soar when I feel confined

So,

Don't try too hard to define  
What poetry really is  
Just know that what you get from a poem  
Is all a poet had to give

11.25.02

Tamika Stubblefield

# Single Parenthood

In my single parent 'hood.'  
Black mothers rise before dawn  
Kitchen lights blink on  
Maybe a minute or two  
is spent enjoying the calm  
before the storm.  
'MOM! ' breaks the silence  
and brings an avalanche  
of someone else's needs and wants.

In my single parent 'hood'  
Black mothers run for buses  
with babes in tow  
Out of breath, searches for her fare  
which she doesn't find  
Cause nothing is fair

In my single parent 'hood'  
Black mothers bring home the bacon  
and fry it up with some eggs and grits  
to feed the man-child  
Growing too fast for his own good  
Searching his mother's eyes for a father

In my single parent 'hood'  
Black mothers spend lonely nights  
Finding a mate or even a date  
is like searching in the light for the dark  
He ain't tryin' to raise no other man's child

In my single parent 'hood'  
I sit with my son on front steps  
Watching people come and go  
Waiting for 'DADDY'

2003

Tamika Stubblefield

# Spirit Speaks

Time  
For me  
is an illusion.  
Existing only for the mind,  
offering solitude to the body.  
As I exist  
on all realms.  
Reality is  
yet it is not  
I exist in a space of  
continuousness  
Experiencing the entire spectrum  
concurrently  
Joy  
Pain  
Confusion  
Clarity  
Light  
Dark  
Love  
Always love.

Tamika Stubblefield

## Tanka #1

I reach for you  
Hoping that this is a dream  
And you will return  
From the garden, a rose  
In hand and love on your lips

Tamika Stubblefield

# Women With Words

Women with words  
Work wonders with  
Amazing anecdotes and  
Analogies,  
Memorable metaphors,  
Sassy similes  
Performing personification-  
Onomatopoeia oozing over  
Lyrical lips  
Rhythm riding 'round  
Harmonious hakius  
Trailing tasty tankas  
Telling tales of  
Obscene offenses  
Like lukewarm love

Tamika Stubblefield