

Conch Shell Blows

the conch shell blows
the conch shell bellows
Oh! New Orleans, Mississippi, Louisiana,
Oh! Louisiana, Mississippi, New Orleans,
tragedy struck ---is it or was it class or race ---
poverty oh! poverty -----
my people! My people! My people!
marshal law an imposition --zero tolerance purports ----
bread, justice, human rights and public health
compromised --- compromised -----
oppression/oppressors, ---oppressors/oppression----
stratified capitalism ---social services ----
putrefied protocols -----
the conch shell blows
the conch shell bellows
My people! My people! My people!
New Orleans, Mississippi, Louisiana
tsunami/hurricane/tsunami ---
hurricane, hurricane, hurricane
Katrina! Rita! Ernesto
devastated and ravaged the gulf cost --- gulf cost ---
levee breached, levee breached -----
common ground navigated -----navigated -----
urban assaults ---- published
nature speaking naturally
listen! listen! listen!
common ground navigated -----
the conch shell blows
the conch shell bellows
My people! My people! My people!

New Orleans, Mississippi, Louisiana
the cultural archives submerged
the conch shell blows
the conch shell bellows
Listen! Listen! Listen!
humanity is and was displaced in historic proportions ---
shuttled to-and-fro
the living mortified ----
the elderly, mothers, fathers, children –
impoverished ---reduced to misery
trampling the human spirit and psyche ----
buildings crumbled to rubble ----
infrastructures devastated ----
death ceases to be death -----
and its sting and stench linger -----
diseases rampant --- rampant -----
toxic waste --- silent killers magnified
pollutants unchecked/entrenched -----
the conch shell blows
the conch shell bellows
mourning, grieving, ravaging humanity ----
Oh! New Orleans, Mississippi, Louisiana,
Oh! Louisiana, Mississippi, New Orleans
Atrocities! Atrocities! Atrocities!
evacuees ---evacuees --- evacuees under siege –
people desolated in desolation -----
depicted as refugees, refugees, refugees ----
inside the borders of these united states ----
vulnerable –vulnerable ---vulnerable ---
superdome, hotels, mobile homes, shelters,
private homes, streets, bridges, parks, roof tops, trees ----
psychological profiling ----

the conch shell blows
the conch shell bellows
alleged crimes against humanity ---
humanity subverted,
government's reckless negligence and incompetence illuminated
arrogance masked -----
agencies and authorities quiver -----
while humanity demonstrated benevolence
the conch shell blows
the conch shell bellows
nature speaking ---
bringing attention to global assault on the environment ----environment ----
global warming! global warming!-----
all humanity! and life forms are at risk,---risk
the conch shell blows, blows, ---bellows-----
furiously! furiously! furiously!
against greed, poverty and man insensitivity to
nature globally -----
the conch shell blows
the conch shell bellows -----
focusing on humanity instead of profits ---
respect! respect! respect! humanity globally ----
nature purging – Katrina/Rita/Ernesto-----
the conch shell blows
the conch shell bellows
Oh! New Orleans, Mississippi, Louisiana
Oh! Louisiana, Mississippi, New Orleans
My people! My people! My people!
conch shell blows -----