

Untitled

by M. Eliza Hamilton Abegunde and LaShawnda Crowe Storm
Companion Poem for the Be/Coming: An American Masquerade © 2009

I AM

Jane James Albertina Daly Henrietta
James Vergie James Ataline Gentry
Harriety Gentry Mamie Perrin Lillie
Belle Mack May Munroe Celia Gilyard
Nellie Sanders

the woman who feeds you until
you are full with summer peaches
and the memories of old women laughing
while singing the ripest from the center of trees

I AM

Isabella Daly Muriel Daly George
Ramona Bouye Linda Theresa Daly
Hamilton Celestine Magnolia Blount
Juanita Gray Cordedia Smith Nichols
Leola Keller Bettie Jean Scott Moore Hall

the woman who whispers you to sleep
with the rustling of my fingers against
dry earth until it rains and your body is
mud and succulent dreams of love
in moments you would have preferred to die

I AM

Georgiana Lizzie James Lily Daly
Juanita Schwartz Eliza Frances James
Daly Mary Goodman Probia Elvira
Collins Wickliffe Helen Goodman Bessie
Marie Scott Mary Kay Bowen

the one who knows your stories before you
are born who draws you into the limelight
to meet your Self and love her without fear

I AM

Audrey Palestine Wickliffe Timberlake

Nancy Russ France Keller Russ Mary
Louise Wilson Mary Daly Peggy
Marshall Sadie Goodman Margaret Daly

the woman who walks without moving
who dreams without sleeping
who cuts without bleeding
who calls you without speaking Remember

I AM

here now

did you think I would forget

Mary Pearl Goodman Sadie Goodman
Anna Washington Rachel Young Agnita
Daly Nevlyn Rawlins Maria Luzia de
Nascimento Maria Jose Silva de Jesus
Maria Augusta de Nascimento

I AM

the sun setting green over the Atlantic
the blues turned into magic
ballast exchanged for gold

Spirit made flesh