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REFLECTIONS

FROM

PRISON

"These are not images to cheer you
- except that you may see in these small acts
some evidence of my thought and caring:
but still I do not fear their power to wound
knowing your grief, your loss and anxious care,
rather I send you bits to fill
the mosaic of your calm and patient knowledge
- picking the jagged bits embedded in my mind.
partly to wrench some ease for my own mind.
And partly that some world sometime may know.

*(Dennis Brutus, Letters to Martha and other poems
from a South African Prison, 1968)*

[Ed. Note: UFAHAMU readers may recall that our initial contact with the inmates of Ohio State Reformatory was in the autumn of 1971 (Vol. II, no. 2, p. 5) when James (Sah-Sahl) Trevathan, alias #74728, wrote to us about the African American Culture Club (AACC), a group of black inmates interested in educating themselves about African heritage and culture and about the black man's position in the United States.

Since then, in a recent letter, Imamu Abdul Malik tells us that "Brothuh Sah-Sahl who was here has been paroled." And that Abdul Malik himself has taken Sah-Sahl's place.

UFAHAMU is proud to serve as an outlet for the release of the energy of men and women like these whose creative genius transcends the restrictive thought patterns conditioned by prison experience.]



Sadists, I luv you.

Do you know him?
The devil.
In time you will.
Hell is vast engulfing.
"Stop! Not here!
Go away! Run, fool!"
YOU ARE ALL SO CONFUSED.



Biography of Poets

Imamu Abdul Andemosi Malik "born g. l. bond, march 18, 1951; died january 1971. reborn imamu abdul-malik." He is a native of Toledo, Ohio, where he had high school education. He has also attended various institutions as an undergraduate, including Howard University and Toledo University. He is a poet, essayist, journalist, and playwright. His creative works have been published in various anthologies. Presently he is director of "The Freedom Movement," a black theater ensemble. He is also editor of a monthly newsletter, the HABARI. At the moment, he is "doing time" at the Mansfield State Reformatory for armed robbery and also serving time for a Federal youth corrections act.

* * * * *

D. H. Wilhight was born December 5, 1948, in Middletown, Ohio where he attended high school, graduating in 1966. Since then, he has had undergraduate education in various institutions like Miami, Wilmington and Ashland. Presently, he is an inmate at the Mansfield State Reformatory serving 10-25 years for armed robbery, and 2-15 years for possession of heroin. His works have appeared in various collegiate anthologies.
