

# WHAT DID IT ALL MEAN?

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Did Brown really mean  
That you were meant  
To be  
In separate and unequal lecture halls  
Within,  
Yet  
Without?

Did Brown really mean,  
That new classifications could be  
Used to push you out?

Justifying your exclusion  
At the cost of an education  
At the risk of your ignorance  
At the pain of generations lost?  
Worst than ever imagined?

Did Brown mean  
That from negro you would awake,  
And a new label to take?  
Unwarned,  
Trampled by acronyms and codes  
Signifying your inadequacies,  
Incompetence, inherent ignorance to unfold

Were not these what the battles were all about?  
Transforming their narrow minds,  
To do without  
The vile hatred, and assumptions of superiority

Was this not what the children marched for?  
Jailed, chained, and incarcerated for?  
That equal opportunity,  
Meant an equal hand?

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But perhaps, what was all left out,  
Indeed forgotten about  
As they scribbled their last lines,  
About the negroes' self esteem and potential minds

Was that children need, what law cannot compel  
Love and care to do well,  
But that in this no legislature nor judge can produce  
Through use of pen or abuse,  
But from hearts, born open by desire