Torn Between Two Worlds (Jesus at the Crossroads)

Charlie R. Braxton

Let us know how access to this document benefits you.

Follow this and additional works at: https://scholarworks.umt.edu/cutbank

Part of the Creative Writing Commons

Recommended Citation
Available at: https://scholarworks.umt.edu/cutbank/vol1/iss44/28

This Poetry is brought to you for free and open access by ScholarWorks at University of Montana. It has been accepted for inclusion in CutBank by an authorized editor of ScholarWorks at University of Montana. For more information, please contact scholarworks@mso.umt.edu.
Torn between Two Worlds
(Jesus at the Crossroads)

and it came to pass
that the son of man
was called down to
the crossroads
where the loa of
the dead and the
spirit of the undead
meet in the sweet
by and by to try
and test the cool
of those who dare
to walk the walk
of the crossroad way
and break
between the beats of
mortals and gods
seek/in the holiness
of wisdom past
and wisdom present
embodied in the
orishas of that
old time religion

yeah jesus went
down to the old
rugged cross-
roads to dance between two worlds
his holy body breaking to the beat of a music
loud enough to shake awake
the black saints of old
marching onward
like majestic warriors
chanting
in/to the hot dark delta night
(loa legba, loa legba, loa legba)
may the circle be unbroken
by and by lord
by and by
and all the while ehsu watches the waning of the west &
elegba looks longingly
to the east
admonishing jesus
to seek ye first
the holy kingdom
of ashé'
and all other wisdoms
will be added on/in/to you
yo son of man
the choice is yours
you can get with this
or you can get with that