

An Educated Prisoner

Look at how they watch us,
They stare in confused wonder questioning, pondering,
"How could they not have seen the trap laid before them?"
Striped of their true identity,
Their minds institutionalized by years of captivity.

For them,
To be is to be like,
So they imitate, and applaud false perceptions of strength,
Void of a sense of self,
Ununited and fractured into pieces,

Self hate seeps in,

And anger oozes out,

Love is redefined,

Truth individualized,

Paces scrutinized,

Freedom paralyzed,

And justice unrecognized, "..."

Observe how we see us,

How we feed off of each others positive and negative

energy,

Categorizing one another according to how well one

adapts to state sanctioned dehumanization,

And ostracizing those who break under its yoke;

We are told that education is the key to these

locks,

So they modify it, monitor it, and distribute it as

a privilege rather than a right,

"Better to be an 'educated prisoner' than an

isolated fool"

But once the veil of ignorance has been lifted

we discover critical education to be hostile
to captivity, an enemy to passivity, and a motivator
for change,
soon a thirst for equity and justice is manifested
in the new enlightened mind,
But powerless against the system that entombs
him he seeks out distractions, and flashes of
freedom in order to numb the agony of
being reduced to an educated prisoner.

Written by: De'Andre Robinson