

Dana Gilkes

THE HOME LIBERATION FRONT

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In New York,

Bajan
Jamaican
St. Lucian
Guyanese
(I could go on)

never have more spirit
than when they laugh
in some natural-born American's face
about going home.

Bus-stop, supermarket
train station
and once
even while I was watching
my goddaughter play
at the jungle gym
over there-so on Avenue N...

We are not just
passing the time then.

You would think we had sojourn
in Egypt
for so-many-and-so-many
desolate years

and then some hitherto
iron-fisted Pharaoh
had finally made
a value judgment
to crack his fingers a mite

and let
the sunlight
talk.

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By: Dana Gilkes

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