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Legacy

Gerard Lawless

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Lawless, Gerard 'Da Cave', "Legacy"

This is for us.
There's always a plus.
No more slaves are us,
Just in God we trust,
Thanks to those who pave the way.
This is for those of the slave days,
Which led to the boycott rage,
And who still fight for our unsettled freedom.

Old Negro spirituals built heroes.
Once thought of as zeros, now we roll,
As politicians, musicians, and providers,
In a land that wasn't ours,
Yet still we bloomed as flowers,
In a land that was barren for us.

Sister Rosa in the bus,
Mixed with Martin and Malcolm,
Ralph Abernathy, Philip Randolph,
And the Reverend Jesse Jackson.
James Weldon and J. Rosamond Johnson
Wrote the national Black anthem.
Thanks to Huey P. Newton
For the strength of the Black Panthers.

These are the holders of the candles
That were passed to me and you.
What was a flame is a torch now,
And it burns for me and you.
Yes, you, you and you,
And also me too.

They are the strength of our hope.
Their lives they gave,
So we wouldn't be lost these days.
Now the times have changed;
It's their time for praise.
They made the way so we couldn't be made slaves,
So all thanks I give to them.
From the song, "Lift every voice and sing,"
To the statement, "Let freedom ring."
Thank you for freedom that is now mine!

Genre: Poetry

Tags: Black Freedom Struggle; Black Music (spirituals, protest songs); Civil Rights Movement;
Black Panthers