

## Questions Sheet for Class #7

### **Freeman's questions for "Creation" by James Weldon Johnson pg. 304**

1. What are the most compelling elements of this (storytelling) poem?
2. God is presented as both human and divine. What language in the poem that supports this?
3. Do you find a perplexity in God revealing his own human nature and then God's decision to make Man in his own image?

### **Freeman's questions for "Madam and the Minister" by Langston Hughes, pg. 301.**

1. What do you imagine brought this meeting about?
2. What feelings are most prominent in the poem?
3. What brings the madam to a change of mood?

(Freeman asks that you also read "Revival" by Kevin Young, pg. 312. "Nocturne at Bethesda" by Arna Bontemps, pg. 297)

### **Eleanor's questions/talking points for Al Young's "Myself When I Am Real," pg. 311.**

1. What do you think Al Young means by "when I am real"?
2. What do you make of the images in the poem: sun, jewels, rain, earth, door of sun?
3. This poem was written "for Charles Mingus." Do you get any connection between the music and the poem? How would you explain that?
4. Do you like this poem? What do you like about it? Other than what's covered above, do you see any religious/spiritual imagery?

### **Eleanor's questions/talking points for Larry Neal's "Holy Days" pg. 308**

1. The images in this poem are not what most would call "holy." What do you think Neal meant by that term? Do you agree?
2. Notice that this poem is one long sentence. What do you make of format, including all upper case? Do you have an overall reaction to this poem?

### **Eleanor's questions/talking points for "99 Beautiful Names" by Bonaa Muhammad (See the [Weekly Reading](#) page for links to video and text)**

1. What's your overall reaction to this piece and the performance? Do you consider this spoken-word piece, poetry?