## CHAPTER 47

When I rounded that corner- what did I see, two snottynosed boys drinking from a bottle of bleach- yards from out of my reach; "NO STOP- DON'T DRINK THAT!", I loudly yelled- causing them to drop it and run, but not with-out taking a sip from the bottle each

Looking around that alley, a tear did drop my eyewhile asking the question- WHY; WHY- did children suffer the most, and WHY did the innocent always seemed to die

.....WHY?

The Ghetto had always been a dangerous place for the youth, but now there were shards of glass all around-littering the ground; jagged tin can lids- chemicals- sharp wooden stakes- and infected hypodermic needles, all accessible to be found

The sanitation fight, was a senseless power struggle for budgetary right; and between the trash- and the crack epidemic, my city was a dreadful sight

..... I had to do something!

I hiked my way over to where the bottle did sit, and quickly checked - to see if there was still any bleach inside of it; of which I poured all the remaining contents down to the ground, making sure to drain every last drop of the toxic bullshit

.....When-SUDDENLY!

I heard 'CLAPP'ing hands- within my left and right earcausing me to spin to the rear; where I spotted Ghetto Bob Marley rejoicing, which was a sight to me most queer

"CHAMPION! .....What ja dun dun now, make me wan shed a tear .....Ya dun dun a really good ting-real champion work now ya 'ear"; he did gleefully croon out, making it most obvious and clear- that he had witnessed me stop the children and interfere

"BUT- WHY DIDN'T YOU STOP THEM!", I passionately wailed- with a face covered with grim;

"Champion- It was not a ting for me .....It was just a ting for you .....And for dem...."

He then raised his right hand high to the sky like a gun, and said- ".....Ya dun blessed those litt'al seeds wit' cha lovin' interven'chun.....; .....Can ya feel it nowwit' in da spear'ut .....Champion- Zion is callin' pon ya .....Time ta prove ya worthy for redemp'chun"

"Brutha- how in the world would you know what I need", I did rhetorically ask;

"Ya really wan chat now boy .....When ya be followin' dem ruffians- dat dun pass"

I did follow his lowered gun hand to see, those two barefooted bastards hiking toward the opposite end of the alley; at which point I tooted out"Thanks!", but as I turned back around to face him- he had once again disappeared upon me

I tailed- and trailed them some more, from a strong-arm robbery- to two silver satin purchases from a local liquor store; right into another strong-arm robbery, to taking turns in a filthy alleyway- with an even filthier whore

As the sun did set within the sky, after hours of playing Magnum P-I; they entered into a derelict warehouse, where other hobos closely stood by

Surrounding the entire hobo squatters stash, were pounds upon pounds- and mounds upon heaping mounds- of gut sickening trash; legions of flies- squadrons of rats- and old rusted vehicles, completely striped of all parts holding any value in cash

Just the sight of the place, was more than enough to cause a person mental teeter; with its graffiti covered walls, it looked like the fortress of a baby eater

The windows were all boarded up around the place, and there was not one door connected to any intact entry way space; and there were a dozen or so beach cruisers, all lined up curbside- as if they were being displayed in some street bike showcase

It was something out of Mad Max and the Thunder Dome, something that did not belong; like a club house for unruly bikers, that had at some point gone horribly wrong

That suicidal determination that I had earlier possessed- GONE, and the Rooster's heart- that too had long since flown; which was the main reason that I had no intentions in walking my black ass into that Monkey Zoo House- all on my lone

.....NO- NO- NO- NO- NO- NO-NO!