

The Case for Departure from America

by Natalie A. Jackson, Esq.

"The master's tools will never dismantle the master's house." – Audre Lorde

I. Our Historic Role: The Shield and the Scapegoat

From its inception, this American experiment was never meant for us. Unlike the immigrants who journeyed here with hope in hand, our ancestors were shackled and shipped under moonless skies, not with dreams but with whips. We were not welcomed but commodified. We were not included in the "We the People" but instead dehumanized by the Three-Fifths Compromise, etched into the Constitution not as citizens but as tools.

Black presence in America has always been transactional...leveraged by elites as a wedge, used to redirect the fury of poor and working-class white people away from their true economic captors. Unlike the Irish, Italians, Jews, or others who came to America by choice or refuge, the descendants of Africa were bound by brutality. Our existence here has always been political. From the moment of the Three-Fifths Compromise, when the so-called Founding Fathers used our bodies as bargaining chips, we have served not as citizens but as levers of manipulation for the white elite. We have been the distraction used to divide poor white people from their real enemy: their own exploiters.

This paradigm was true during:

- **Bacon's Rebellion (1676):** When poor white and Black people briefly united, terrifying the elite and prompting the invention of "race" to divide them.
- **Reconstruction:** When Black progress provoked a vicious white backlash.
- **Jim Crow:** When segregation became law to preserve false superiority.
- **The Civil Rights Movement:** When every gain was met with new suppression.
- **The DEI Backlash of Today:** When our inclusion is framed as white loss.

At every inflection point of American progress, it was Black labor, blood, and brilliance that fueled the engine. From Emancipation to the Civil Rights Movement, from the arts to the ballot box, we have carried this nation's conscience on our backs. Yet with each stride forward came the backlash: the Black Codes, the War on Drugs, mass incarceration, voter suppression, police brutality, and now, an attack on the very idea that Black people belong in the future of America. We are used as the eternal scapegoat. Our marginal gains are weaponized as threats to white identity. Our existence is politicized. Our bodies are policed. Our achievements are distorted into zero-sum narratives. We are not citizens, we are symbols. Symbols that elites use to control the white masses. Symbols that make America's lie feel like a truth.

President Lyndon B. Johnson, a member of the elite, named the game plainly:

"If you can convince the lowest white man he's better than the best colored man, he won't notice you're picking his pocket."

And indeed, the pockets of white America have been emptied, by the billionaire class, while we, the descendants of the enslaved, are blamed for the theft.

II. The Rise of Autocracy and the Fall of the American Democracy

Donald Trump, Elon Musk, Peter Thiel, their ideological disciple J.D. Vance, and their enablers represent not a new threat but the oldest one: oligarchs cloaked in populist garb, preying on resentment, promising freedom while gutting democracy. In them, we see the full mutation of American democracy into white nationalist autocracy.

They openly admire Curtis Yarvin, the so-called “tech philosopher” who calls for monarchy over democracy, believes some people are born to rule, and sees freedom not as a right but a privilege of the elite. Yarvin's ideas, once fringe, are now gospel to the powerful and wealthy elite, and their vision is clear: a new Gilded Age ruled by tech oligarchs, buttressed by Christian theocracy, enforced by the police state.

It is no coincidence that the MAGA elite now embrace these ideas. They do not want to restore America, they want to re-engineer it into a corporate autocracy, where only the wealthy rule and Blackness is either erased or enslaved.

To do this, they are dismantling the very institutions (education, voting rights, labor protections) that allowed Black Americans to claw our way toward freedom in America. And large swaths of white Americans are cheering them on because they've continued to be told and believe that we are the problem.

We are not.

But we will always be seen that way here in America. Weak and easily led people will always look for a scapegoat to blame their failures on.

III. The Futility of Saving a Nation That Doesn't Want to Be Saved

We are less than 14% of the American population. We have fought for every scrap of freedom and every inch of progress, yet for every advance, a backlash follows.

- When we elected a Black president, they elected Trump.
- When we protested injustice, they outlawed protest.
- When we succeeded in academia, they ended affirmative action.
- When we were murdered, they defended the murderers.
- When we demanded equality, they called it “wokeness.”

In America, we are trapped in an eternal cycle: win, backlash, rebuild, repeat. This is not liberation. This is a never-ending and exhausting game of survival. And it is a survival we can now choose to reject.

IV. The Call: Leave America. Give Them What They Asked For

If the white masses in America are so determined to "have their country back," let them have it. Let them inherit the ruins of their delusion. Perhaps in our absence, they will finally see that we

were never their problem. Possibly, when there is no longer a Black America to scapegoat, they will look behind the curtain and see that the wizard, Trump, Musk, Theil, Vance, is their true oppressor and begin fighting their real enemy.

Until then, let them live in the world they've chosen. A world ruled by billionaires, armed with lies and hollowed of soul and humanity. Let them stew in the consequences of ignoring their true enemy. Once we are gone, let them see that it was never us.

We have given this country everything. Our blood. Our brilliance. Our art. Our labor. Our forgiveness. And in return, it has given us exile and otherness in the land of our birth. We owe America nothing. This is not abandonment. This is self-preservation.

V. The Path Forward: Return, Reinvest, Reimagine

Let's be clear: not all of us can leave America, at least not physically. Some of us are bound here by family, by mortgages, by jobs, or by the sheer cost of starting over. But that doesn't mean we can't still choose freedom. Because leaving isn't only about geography. It is about vision. It is about refusing to center our futures around a nation that was never built for our survival, let alone our success.

Africa is not the past. It is the future.

By 2030, over 43 percent of Africans will be part of the middle or upper class. By 2050, one in four people on Earth will be African. Right now, 70 percent of Africa's population is under the age of 30, making it the youngest population on the planet. It is a continent brimming with potential, creativity, and energy. The global economy is already shifting. Africa is projected to be home to eight of the ten fastest-growing economies in the world, with tech hubs, green energy, digital infrastructure, and cultural industries leading the charge.

While America doubles down on division and decay, Africa is building.

Maybe we cannot all leave physically. But we can still divest from the myth of American salvation. We can leave mentally. We can leave financially. We can leave through innovation. We can stop pouring our genius into a system designed to exploit it and start planting it in soil that sees us not as threats or tokens but as architects of the future.

Let us send our money, our brilliance, and our vision across the ocean. Not as saviors. Not as strangers. But as the rightful heirs of a stolen legacy.

Let us go home, however we can.

VI. Final Words: The Logic of Departure

America is not broken.

It is functioning precisely as it was designed to.

From its inception, this nation was not built for justice, it was built for hierarchy. Its founding ideals, noble in rhetoric, were never intended to be extended to all. The architecture of racism and inequality is not a flaw in the American system; it is the system. And the sooner we accept this unyielding truth, the sooner we can stop waging a war against an enemy that adapts faster than we can reform it, a war not meant to be won but to wear us down, generation after generation, with its infinite reinventions.

Today, many white Americans are awakening to the threat of fascism, manifested through figures like Trump, Musk, and the Christian nationalist movement. For their resistance, I offer both my applause and my solidarity. But let us be intellectually honest: this is their fight. Win or lose, the battle for the soul of American democracy is theirs to wage.

Why? Because power in America has always followed numbers. And we, American-born descendants of Africa, have never had the numbers. At under 14% of the population, we have marched, organized, bled, and died for justice, often on the front lines. But we have never held the demographic power necessary to transform the nation alone.

White Americans, who comprise over 72.5% of the country, possess the majority of votes, wealth, institutions, and influence. If fascism is to be stopped, it is they who must stop it. They alone have the numerical and cultural weight to dismantle the system that was not only built in their name but sustained for their benefit.

We have been the moral conscience of this nation. We have raised the alarm for centuries. But now, it is their house that is burning. And it is theirs to extinguish.

Fred Hampton understood this dynamic when he said:
"The power of the oppressor rests upon the submission of the masses."

If the white majority rises, they can defeat fascism. And I hope, for the sake of democracy, they do.

But even in victory, their triumph will restore a version of America that has always been a dead end for us. Because what they long to return to, what they nostalgically call "normal", was never justice or equality for us.

Before Trump, there was Trayvon Martin.

Before Trump, there was Tamir Rice.

Before Trump, there was mass incarceration, redlining, medical neglect, generational theft, police violence, and the systemic erasure of our dignity and truth.

For centuries, we have been this country's backbone, its conscience, and its scapegoat. While we are just 14% of its population, we are 100% sovereign over our own destiny. We no longer need to beg a system that cannot see us. We no longer need to prove our worth to those

who profit from our oppression. We no longer need to fight for crumbs at a table that was never built for us.

It is time to build something new, something wholly our own. Let us invest in land, in business, in education, and in each other. Let us plant roots where our skin is not criminalized, our voices are not muted, and our history is not rewritten. Let us build bridges for our children in places where being born of Africa is not a burden, but a birthright. Let us build with our brothers and sisters, not beg for a seat at a decaying table.

You don't need to uproot your life to reimagine your legacy. You can start from wherever you are right now. Reallocate your energy. Reposition your loyalty. Reclaim your purpose. Because the real exodus begins in the mind.

So let us lift our eyes to Accra, Nairobi, Cape Town, Dakar, and Kigali. Let us turn toward a continent on the rise.

Let us build a new reality, together. One not bound by borders, but by vision.
Let us return not just with our bodies, but with our purpose.
Let us reinvest not just our dollars, but our dignity.
Let us reimagine not just what freedom looks like, but where it lives.

Because the only way to stop being the scapegoat of someone else's failing empire...is to leave the empire behind.

If you are interested in exploring opportunities or traveling to difference counties on the continent of Africa, please contact Natalie Jackson at nat_jack@hotmail.com.