

Poetry Is Not Music
By Kamal Symonette-Dixon

To you my mother Deborrah Symonette:

Song lyrics are not poetry. The art of poetry is different than the art of song lyrics. If song lyrics were poetry, song lyrics presented without music accompanying the song lyrics would be considered only poetry and, thus, the reference song lyrics would be used interchangeably with the reference poetry whether the poetry discussed were used in music or not. But we don't use the reference poetry synonymously with the reference song lyrics. Therefore, we don't use the reference poetry interchangeably with the reference song lyrics. Poetry is different than song lyrics. We recognize the art of poetry is different than the art of song lyrics. There is not some confusion reflected in people in a basic way distinguishing poetry from song lyrics. The difference between poetry and song lyrics should be recognized. Just because poetry can serve for song lyrics and song lyrics can serve for poetry does not necessitate poetry is the same as song lyrics. Poetry is not the same as song lyrics. Song lyrics are not only able to be accompanied by music such as live instruments or produced beats but are music themselves. Song lyrics are music. Poetry is not music. A poem is poetry. Poems are poetry. A poem is not music. Poems are not music. Poetry set to music is exactly that: poetry set to music. A poem set to music is exactly that: a poem set to music. Poems set to music are exactly that: poems set to music. A poem set to music is not music. The music for a poem set to music is music, not the poem. Poems set to music are not music. The music for poems set to music is music, not the poems. Poetry set to music is not music. The music for poetry set to music is music, not the poetry. Poetry is not rap. Poetry is not rap. And in turn, rap is not poetry. Some

people like to say rap is poetry set to music, but if rap were poetry set to music, rap would not be rap and would instead be poetry. But rap is not poetry; therefore, rap is not poetry set to music. Poetry set to music is poetry that uses music with that poetry. Rap is music that is rap music. Poetry is not rap music. Poems are not rap. A poem is not rap. Poems are not rap music. A poem is not rap music. A poem is not any type of music; therefore, a poem is not rap music. A poem is not any type of music; therefore, a poem is not rap. Poems are not any type of music; therefore, poems are not rap music. Poems are not any type of music; therefore, poems are not rap. Poetry is not any type of music; therefore, poetry is not rap music. Poetry is not any type of music; therefore, poetry is not rap. Whether accompanied by music or not, rap lyrics are music by way of rap lyrics being song lyrics that are rap lyrics, and song lyrics are music; therefore, rap lyrics are music. Rap lyrics are not poetry because poetry is not song lyrics and rap lyrics are song lyrics that are rap lyrics; therefore, poetry is not rap lyrics. Rap lyrics are not a poem because a poem is not song lyrics and rap lyrics are song lyrics that are rap lyrics; therefore, a poem is not rap lyrics. Rap lyrics are not poems because poems are not song lyrics and rap lyrics are song lyrics that are rap lyrics; therefore, poems are not rap lyrics. Just because poetry can serve for rap lyrics and rap lyrics can serve for poetry does not necessitate poetry is the same as rap lyrics. Poetry is not the same as rap lyrics. Rap is different than poetry. And if rap were the same as poetry, there would be no such thing as rap lyrics and the reference rap would say the same thing as the reference poetry. But rap is not the same as poetry. So the reference rap in addressing what rap is was not made to say what the reference poetry says. The reference rap does not say what the reference poetry says. Lyrics are music and are for music played that can have lyrics. Lyrics are song lyrics. If song lyrics were the same as poetry, there would be no such thing as song lyrics and the

reference song would say the same thing as the reference poetry. But song lyrics are not the same as poetry, and in turn, a song is not the same as poetry. So the reference song in addressing what a song is was not made to say what the reference poetry says. The reference song does not say what the reference poetry says. A song is not poetry. A song is music. A song is not a poem. A song is music. Songs are not poems. Songs are music. A rap song is not poetry. A rap song is music. A rap song is not a poem. A rap song is music. Rap songs are not poems. Rap songs are music. Rap is rap music. Poetry is different than rap music. Poetry is different than music. The art of poetry is different than the art of rap song. The art of poetry is different than the art of song. The art of poetry is different than the art of rap music. The art of poetry is different than the art of music.