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If It Makes Me Cocky Then So Be It

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Cover Page Footnote

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KEITH J. ALEXANDER

IF IT MAKES ME COCKY THEN SO BE IT

One can never show too much love for his or her self
The saying goes too much of a good thing can kill you
Well I should have been dead already
You see before cupid struck me in my heart to make me love my light skin Latina,
He struck me in my mind to make me love myself
I guess I love my self a little too much
But if it makes me cocky then so be it

If it makes me cocky to strive for perfection in an imperfect society
Filled with a mass variety of cultures who are attacked by capitalist vultures but
embraced by communist ideas that take away my fears, then so be it

If it makes me cocky to speak up
To those who make fun of my father for
Having the ability to count my poems but not being able to read them, then so be it

If it makes me cocky to say that
The lovers who love my love don't love me
'Cause the color of my skin closer to O.J.'s glove
Rather than a dove holding an olive branch, then so be it

If it makes me cocky when I tell you that
I refuse to be misused by the radio stations and the news
The crooked cops that hold their glocks and all they do is abuse, then so be it

If it makes me cocky when I say that Ima make it out the ghetto, Ima make it out the
ghetto, I'm going to make it out of the ghetto not in cuffs or in a body bag and when I
return, Ima give my community the one thing they never had which is love, then so be it.

But what does cockiness want with me?
Cockiness wants me to tell the gangs to leave my community
Cockiness wants me to tell the cops to stop harassing me
Cockiness wants me to love my girl without getting dirty looks
Cockiness wants me to help my father read chapter books
Cockiness wants communism and capitalism to end and
Cockiness wants me to brush my hair in the mirror for 5 hrs until my waves begin to
spin.
I tried running away from cockiness but it lives with in me after each footstep after each
breath. I tried to escape. But escape is like sleep and when sleep is permanent it's death.
So I say to you if death makes me cocky, then so be it.