

AFTER A WORD WITH NINA

Written by Anyah Nancy Jackson

After a word with Nina
Simone that's is
She said I need to believe "ina"
Power way bigger than I
And not the words that white man provide

She said
They'll never know you like your grandmother
They'll never love you like you daddy
They'll never see you like you do
So do.
The best that you can and know that is enough
Enough lies
Enough sigh
Hold your head high
Look to sky
And see a reflection of I
Cause you were made in image of he
So you never have to walk this journey alone
And that's word to Nina Simone

Now I don't know if Nina believed in a he or she
All i know is that we
Recognize the God in "Ni"
Moving through her
And inspiring me
We
You
Who has the same power as she
With our own special power
To inspire we

A Word from the author:

I wrote this piece on Nina Simone's 90th birthday. It just flowed out of me like tears from a really good cry. Since the moment Nina and I met with "I want a little sugar in my bowl" I have been captivated by the spell her voice summons. I had the same experience with Ms. Lauryn Hill, they both have this undeniable essence of God. I grew up singing in the church so I know when I feel the holy spirit moving, with Nina I feel that. The last stanza talks about how I am not sure who Nina Simone

believed in or even if she believed at all but that doesn't concern me. God is in everyone and we all get to a point where that light starts to show, Nina's light just happened to be the kind generations never forget. That's her genius.