

ALBERTINA

for Albertina Sisulu aka Ma Sisulu – "mother of a nation"

to Logic, Amy True and Femi Santiago. I wrote this with them in mind, after co-working on a youth initiative –for the Leys CDI Youth Project, at Ruskin College, Oxford – celebrating the life of Nelson Mandela.

Femi Santiago (*sung*): Albertina,
You took us up there -
To the height of humanity.
Thankyou for the learning,
Which we've taken from your journey.

Amy:(*all spoken*): Stood silent with the women
Logic: In Pretoria
Amy: Saluted with the women
Logic: In Pretoria
Amy: Sang with the women
Logic: In Pretoria
Amy/Logic: Twenty thousand women
Against the racist Order -
August 9th 1956

Femi(*sung*): Albertina
We know you loved Walter
Logic/Amy (*spoken*): We loved him too
Femi (*sung*): Albertina
You walked hand in hand
Logic/Amy (*spoken*): A love song called Sisulu

Logic (*all spoken*): Stood alongside the Indian, Raheema Moosa
Amy: She was my sister
Logic: Stood alongside the White, Helen Beatrice Joseph
Amy: She was my sister
Logic: Stood alongside the "Coloured", Sophia de Bruyn
Amy: She was my sister
Logic/Amy: Twenty thousand women

Against the racist Order -
August 9th 1956

Femi (*sung*): We remember you, Raheema
There's a hospital named after you
Amy/Logic (*spoken*): You walked beside Ma Sisulu
Femi (*sung*): We remember you, Helen
There's a student residence named after you
Amy/Logic (*spoken*): You walked beside Ma Sisulu
Femi (*sung*): We remember you Sophia
There is a road named after you
Amy/Logic (*spoken*): You walked beside Ma Sisulu

Amy:(*all spoken*): They harrassed her continuously
Logic: Received another ban
Amy: They harrassed her continuously
Logic: Another prison van
Amy: They harrassed her continuously
Logic: Throughout her life span
Amy/Logic: Twenty thousand women
Standing before the Man -
August 9th 1956

Femi (*sung*): Albertina
We know you loved Walter
Logic/Amy (*spoken*) : We loved him too.
Femi: Albertina
You walked hand in hand
Logic/Amy (*spoken*): A love song called Sisulu

Femi (*sung*): Albertina,
You took us up there -
To the height of humanity.
Thankyou for the learning,
Which I've taken from your journey.