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The Literary Corner: Introduction to African English Drama with Brooks Robinson (side b)

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WEBVTT

00:06:50.000 --> 00:06:59.000

and understand what I'm saying about Okigbo personalness and-and spirituality in his poetry as you'll hear prelude to the Limit.

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<i>Kuojo Yelekepala</i>: An image insists from the flag pole of my heart, The image distracts with the cruelty of the rose ...

00:07:09.000 --> 00:07:16.000

My lioness Wound me with your sea-weed face, blinded like a strong-room.

00:07:16.000 --> 00:07:22.000

Distances of your armpit-fragrance Turn chloroform, enough for my patience –

00:07:22.000 --> 00:07:32.000

When you have finished, and done up my stitches, Wake me near the altar, & this poem will be finished.

00:07:32.000 --> 00:07:37.000

<i>Brooks B. Robinson</i>: Note the closeness of Okigbo's poetry, how he begins with the word image.

00:07:37.000 --> 00:07:46.000

See the image closely as he says it 'the image insists from the flagpole of my heart' very close, very personal poetry.

00:07:46.000 --> 00:08:03.000

And notice the reference to the alter, he says 'wake me near the alter'. The preoccupation almost with religion. Wake me at the alter after the struggle to get there after you have 'done up my stiches' he says and the 'poem will be finished'.

00:08:03.000 --> 00:08:18.000

Okigbo very, very personal and outstanding example of the personalness, the-the process of dealing with the individual with African-English poet a primary example Christopher Okigbo, one of West Africa's major poets.

00:08:18.000 --> 00:08:31.000

East Africa, the home some scientists say of civilization itself, is noted for it's oral poetry, but among African-English poets it ranks fairly high as well.

00:08:31.000 --> 00:08:43.000

Persons like John Mbiti, Shaaban Robert, and [[Shelley Kibana?]]. These are very important East African or Eastern African poets.

00:08:43.000 --> 00:08:53.960

Because East African English poets were developing in the midst of change, the move out of the colonialist, getting rid of them as they began to write, because of this



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