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

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no matter state what we may be. Finally a look into Southern African English poetry.

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As a result of the South African struggle over the past ten to fifteen years, you have this kind of great awakening. This mass of African, southern African writers, writing in a protest kind of form.

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Because of that struggle there, poets writing in this vein, personals like L.D. Raditladi of Botswana, B.W. Vilakazi of South Africa, Vernon February of South Africa, Daniel Kunene of South Africa.

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But the most respected South or Southern African poet is probably Dennis Brutus. Brutus's poetry reflects the-the epitome of the protest found in other Southern African poetry writers.

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An example, here's a poem from Brutus's work, one of his many volumes, we take this one from the volume called Poem.

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In this particular poem Brutus talks about the suffering that the Southern African has to endure, but he adds the fact that among the native Southern Africans the tenderness still survives.

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<i>Kuojo Yelekepala</i>: Somehow we survive and tenderness, frustrated, does not wither investigating searchlights rake our naked unprotected contours;

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boots club the peeling door. But somehow we survive severance, deprivation, loss.

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Patrols uncoil along the asphalt dark hissing their menace to our lives, most cruel, all our land is scarred with terror, rendered unlovely and unlovable;

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sundered are we and all our passionate surrender but somehow tenderness survives.

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<i>Brooks B. Robinson</i>: And again in the Southern African English poetry the element of the individual



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