

September 14, 2010  
Sent 7:07am  
via Facebook Message

To: Tshombe S. Harris  
From: Eric Battle  
Subject: Keeping In Touch...

I hope this message finds you and your family blessed and highly favored; just wanted to drop you a line because I have been out of touch for the past month or so. As you know I have an amazing amount of respect for you as an artist and as a brother in Christ and the fact that you were willing to reach out to me, as I explored new areas of poetry that I didn't even know existed; speaks highly to your spirit. On behalf of so many others like me, I say thank you.

Recently, my family and I had a very terrifying life altering experience just, which has really put life in perspective for us as we try to move forward. I'm not sure what role poetry will play in my life as I look ahead, because I have such a deep love for the art I sometimes give too much time to learning all I can to improve my writing so that I can reach the people more effectively, so I had to step away from radio hosting on BTR, as well as performing on stage.

At this point my spirit has been renewed and I'm trying to figure out what's more important in life: the things I want to do, or things I need to do. Life is so short there is just not enough time to balance the two. Please if you will, let me know what your thoughts.

Peace and blessings  
Eric Battle

September 20, 2010  
Sent 6:52am  
via Facebook Message

To: Eric Battle  
From: Tshombe S. Harris  
Subject: Re: Keeping In Touch...

Blessings my brother,

It warms my heart to receive your message, and I am absolutely touched by its honesty. My regards to both you and your family for your trials and tribulations, yet I am also rest assured that Christ has comforted you in your process.

Funny thing is poetry, many allow it to be the thing that consumes (I used to be) in the excitement of its emancipating affect not effects, for that is another matter. What comes to mind is when Moses thought he would be less effective because of his handicap, so he asked the Lord for help; I see this as Moses asking for more than just the authority to be a mouth piece, but to go in strength. See, Moses could have asked that the Lord remove his speech problem, but rather he was granted the permission to take with him his brother. That is to say that sometimes, you have to stop and ask the Lord for his guidance in the thing YOU are trying to do in His sake. I say this to you, because it is often the pronoun that stands in the way filled with pride. I am sure there is a lesson in what was just said above.

Purpose is always the thing we should search for in all things, ambition should be left at coat-check for it serves no reason inside this house. Those who walk in wearing ambition lose what is at the heart of the matter; they become too consumed by what is best for them in all things rather than the purpose, for this becomes their purpose: self. Humility and ambition are like the bee; nature's carrier of truth in the way that its nectar is priceless, yet its sting is unwelcoming. Purpose provides balance and ambition drives wants not needs. As much as life needs both balance and drive to propel forward it is always wise to seek the council of both purpose and ambition; however, most advisedly when it comes to *ambition* since it can easily be the poison to growth. There is pain that comes with joy, yet all pain is not joyful, and ambition is poison in large doses. This is my thought for the day, and I thank you for your message that inspired much mentation.

Another brother and I are striking the STORM back up, so I'll keep you posted.

Peace and divine love brother,  
Tshombe