

Teksten van de voordracht van mej. Tania Pietersz, uitgesproken op 1 juli 2001 tijdens de Nationale Dag der Bezinning Afschaffing Slavernij, georganiseerd door het Landelijk Platform Slavernijverleden

Antillas mi stimabo? (Papiamentu)

*Tera kòrá
tera ku ta alimentá mi raisnan
meimei dje skernan den beton
tin yerba ta krese deseándo rekonosementu
meskos ku e parti buskadero di mi alma
ku kier ser rekonosé i afirmá*

*E barankanan dje islanan ku bo ta mirando
ta konta un historia di tempu pasá
nan ta forma e eksperensianan di mi alma,
e blachinan di mi palu,
nan ta kargami.....
aserkando e persona ku mi ta i mi orígen,
aserkando e persona ku mi lo bai ta*

Who do you think you are?

*I am in being
While crawling out of my zombie-cocoon
Enduring inner battles with my demons
In search of spiritual insight, self-love and liberation*

*I am whole
Discarding the useless
Yet filling the vacant
With wisdom, faith, love and confidence*

*I am one
One step closer to my heart's driving force and destiny
Growing from the silent one into the brilliant articulate one
Exchanging shame and invisibility for genuine pride and prominence*

*I am making my mark
Not in big drops, but in drizzles
Aspiring to align my endeavours with historic
Ancestral achievements and to inspire every being I connect with
Aiming to bring forth and cultivate the best within and
To accept and improve the rest within*

**I am Tania Zuleika Maigualida Pietersz,
My presence here is justified**