Nonsecular Non sequitur
By Akeema-Zane

in the cypher before time/ became, i traveled beyond/ the Black sea settled/ before change came/ before i knew i could feel/ myself outside myself/ i smeared salt water/ peering out of my pores/ on my tongue/ before i ran/ across the bordering/ land mass of the Ganges/ begging for mercies/ at its shores

Pedro de Alvarado/ rode adjacent/ toward my back/ his back parodied/ the tail of the iron horse/ his wrists accessorized/ in presbyterian hospital tags/ a man, flesh/ of unpasteurized goat's milk,/ hair of corn silk/ stood above him projecting/ a DACA infomercial/ from his jocote shaped face

exiting in Little Africa/ a Femme Wolof du Cayor/ skin of used copper/ approaches me just/ after barely beating the mouth/ of the closing doors of steel/ her cascading linen mouseaur/ styled to shame my own/ effort-less gold dubi pins/-an offering to the Akan-/ black spandex headcovering,/ a matted hair/ woolike underneath to mask the sweat/ turning scalp to buildup/ unveiling me with her eyes/ alone she asked/ frenetic in her bass/ “hairbrading Miss?”

a woman, my shadow/ reflection seated before me,/ sat composed, fighting/ the melody of rebellion/ chords in her elbows,/ her wrists lay curled/ and fingers faced her chin,/ she wore a black spandex/ dress, whose seams she constantly stretched/
toward her knee/ she made adjustments as I did my falling/ sweatpants, ether and threaded/ in gold, she mouthed/ a tall tale to me/ of men pulsing their breath/ into the back of her throat/ one hand chastising her neck/ palm to palm/ until her brain went numb

“poetry is a coded language”/ my baba told me once/ the sink covered in his locks/-they turned to ash/-by an electric blade/Earth People did suffer too long/ their acres burning wild/ fiyah bun out de bush for babash/ “White Oak rum is all we drinking now;/- de coup, done/ and de hill people have all fallen/ ill to St. Ann’s”/ i and i watched my reflection/ through his in the mirror,/ my eyes watered/ as old rusted pipe water washed/ away his sins/ never to be born again.