

Baleka, What do You Know of Tenders and Thieves? Or Cockroaches for that Matter?

"If food is scarce, adolescent cockroaches can live on a very reliable resource — their parents' feces."

There are lessons that a parent
can teach a child. The first few steps,
how to listen, read, and write. Seldom
how to be tender as you plunder
and rape, how to deal with the spoils,
the leftovers, something sharp
scraping the bottom.

*"The New Zealand Y2K Readiness Commission gave out a recipe for cockroaches
in case the world ended on New Year's Eve, 1999. 'Simmer cockroaches in vinegar.
Then boil with butter, farina flour, pepper and salt to make a paste.
Spread on buttered bread.'"*

You are suspicious of concoctions
from the West, for there are countless
ways of nourishing a nation. You
have secret recipes you're unwilling
to share. We're eager to know what lies
squirming in your mind. What's that
bulging under your sleeve?

*"Scientists claim some female cockroaches prefer weaker partners because they like gentle sex.
A University of Manchester team has concluded stronger male cockroaches are too aggressive
and often injure their partners."*

There are consequences, you say,
for not heeding the pliant rod
of your word. In a chamber
echoing an empty order, no king
will want to speak. So you had to
stamp your feet without even grinding
your teeth this time around.
A flick of your hand and the beating
instantly began.

"A cockroach could live a long time, perhaps a month, without its head."

Thugs go through the academy of thuggery. The ABC's
of how to swing a stick, a panga. How to aim a gun
that need not be fired, except on a whim. One head
may roll, and another. Yet bodies keep kicking,
running even, as if they weren't missing anything.
Because cockroaches breathe through the holes
in their skin, living on nothing for weeks
on end. But they do, eventually, wilt.

“Cockroaches have been present on the earth for more than 400 million years.”

How did you get so far up
that ladder, appearing to know
so little? Perhaps your mind
cannot even go back as far
as Rwanda, when cockroaches
were grafted onto human flesh.

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Quoted cockroach facts from http://www.thaibugs.com/?page_id=137

<http://mg.co.za/article/2015-02-14-mbete-eff-are-pawns-of-the-west-who-want-to-control-sa>