

BE GENTLE

Njabulo S Ndebele

Be gentle gentle on my mind,
please do be gentle,
soft;
do not crowd my mind
with studied images of my past;
let me feel it first:
do not display my carved rituals
at the British Museum,
for little do they say;
let me feel them first.

It is the fairy tale in me,
the story book:
that is the pure tale of my being.
do go gentle on my mind,
softly please,
soft.

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