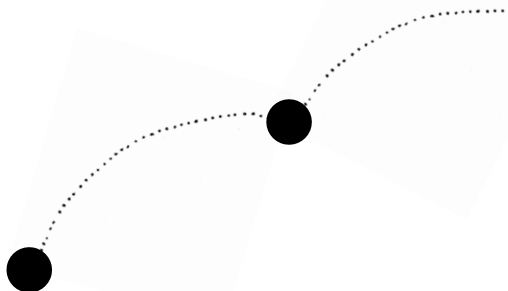


# REBOUND

BY KWAME ALEXANDER

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DAWUD ANYABWILE



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# *For Mommy*

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# Looking Back

It was the summer  
when Now and Laters

cost a nickel  
and *The Fantastic Four*,

a buck.

When I met

Harriet Tubman  
and the Harlem Globetrotters.

1

It was the hottest summer  
after the coldest winter ever,

when a storm shattered  
my home

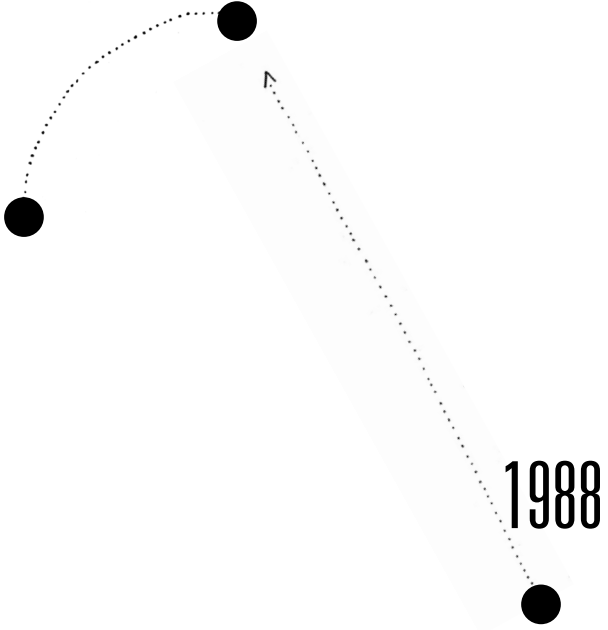
into a million little pieces  
and soaring above

the sorrow and grief  
seemed impossible.

It was the summer of 1988,  
when basketball gave me wings

and I had to learn  
how to rebound

on the court.  
And off.





May 28, 1988

The game is on  
at the park.

The stars are out.

It's close to dark.

Hoop Kings

*SOARing*

in the *SKY*

*so high*

*so fly*

like they Got Wings

(it's like the blacktop

is a box**SPRING**)

*Hey, Charlie, you see what he did with that THING!*

my best friend, Skinny, yells

T

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N

G and *WHIRLING* the ball

*so sweet*

it's like a bee s t i n g

(Ouch!)

He just Swished

in your *Face*.

Stung you like

a can of *mace*

These boys so fly

they're outta **SPACE!**

*C'mon, Charlie, I got next. Let's hoop,* Skinny says,

jumping up from the sidewalk.

Nah, I gotta get home for dinner, I lie.