

## Sliver of Jade

Baby, you better own it!

I own my own mistakes  
As any grown woman should

I own my own flaws  
And still see the greater good

I own my own pain  
Most I brought upon myself

I own my own happiness  
Pulling dreams back off the shelf

I own my own financial condition  
It is up to me to build lasting wealth

I own my own state of well-being  
It is up to me to regain my overall health

I own my own future and my own plight  
I own the effort with which I must fight

What I refuse to own  
Are the labels which have been imposed upon me

I refuse to be your mammy, nanny, or your pickaninny  
I refuse to be your whipping post, or taken as a joke  
I may bow my head and you hear me say, Amen  
But don't get it twisted, you still can catch these hands

I own every beautiful, complicated, scarred and flawed piece of me  
But don't think just because you write my paycheck, you own me.

Slavery is over. Baby, I am free. And guess what, I OWN me.

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Perspective

When he looks at me  
He is transfixed by my flaws

What he doesn't recognize  
Is the inherent beauty in them all

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Blue Monday

I've always been a very old soul  
Experience makes one rich and bold

When all you've seen and heard  
Leads to the life lessons learned

The music speaks your mind  
When lost words you cannot find

They call it blue  
I call it true

Pain, joy, life and love  
Come together and merge as one

When the beat is old  
But the message universal

Blue Monday is merely one day out of a long week  
But it speaks love's truth for all of eternity.

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Decisions, decisions...

What is one to do...

When the illusion seemed so real and true  
When the fallacy mimicked perceived reality  
When the warranty exceeded its guarantee?

Chop down that gnarly tree with a machete  
And burn all the remnants of useless debris

One must then take note of newly discovered scenery  
Learn what it means to view dear life unobstructedly

Just see. Just breathe. Just simply be.

Very plainly, my darling, what is one to do?  
Profoundly, simply, and succinctly, just be you.

Just. Be. You.

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Circle of Life

CYCLE REPEATS. JOY BRINGS PAIN. SUNSHINE BRINGS RAIN. PEACE BRINGS PROSPERITY. LOVE BRINGS HEARTACHE. EXPERIENCE BRINGS WISDOM. FEAST BRINGS FAMINE. TEARS BRING LAUGHTER. DEATH BRINGS LIFE.