



Resource C

Maya Angelou (“Ain’t That Bad?”) talks to William Shakespeare (*Romeo and Juliet*)

O, she doth teach the torches to burn bright!
An’ ain’t they Black?
An’ ain’t they fine?
Wrappin’ up in Blackness
Don’t she shine and glow?
It seems she hangs upon the cheek of night
Black as the earth which has given birth
Beauty too rich for use, for Earth too dear.
Bad as the storm that leaps raging from the
heavens
Make blessèd my rude hand
Black like the hour of the night

True beauty
This night
When your love turns and wriggles
close to your side
Did my heart love till now?
I’ll watch her place of stand
Dancin’ the funky chicken
The measure done,
Tightenin’ up my fro,
Touching hers,
Ain’t we colorful folks?
An ain’t we fine?