

Timothy Brett Reed
October 13, 1960-February 5, 2021

Last week
You told me every day
That you were
Giving me a gift for my birthday
No matter what, you were the gift
But Timothy, I failed you this time
You wrote on the dedication
Page of your novel *Showing Out*
"To my father, who brought me back from
The dead"
It was just the day before
Yesterday the last time we talked
You said that you had trouble
Seeing and what would come next
Even more exotic medications
Blindness dialysis amputations

I will miss your vibrant voice
"Hello Dad, this is Timothy"

I guess you wanted to
Enter the Abode
Whole
Where Eshu-kekere-ode
Will show you around
Where Oshun and her big sister
Yemaya in their splendid
Aquatic gowns
Would make you feel at home

Where those terrible angry
Voices will leave you alone

Ishmael Reed
February 7, 2021



Photo #1: The late Timothy Reed and Ishmael Reed at Timothy Reed's 59th birthday party on October 12, 2019. Photo by Carla Reed.

Photo #2: The late Timothy Reed, Savannah Shange and the late Ntozake Shange circa 1982, 1983. Photo by Ishmael Reed.