The Devil's Hand...Aces and Eights © 2005 by Jackie Kays

Pay not the piper for he's the porter of unwanted truth. I held the devil's hand as we danced all across that jungle land.

The angelic glow of the pop flares flickering in the monsoon rain, reflecting the terror of the warring jungle's refrain.

Mortars loudly report as tracers in their colorful glowing gowns boldly go, and young men search their shaken souls.

Black Pajama clad figures scurry through the tall elephant grass, unaware of the Claymore's in the wire. The howitzers bark and humans die, that's the way of war and lonely mothers will forever cry.

Losers all, winners none.

The score was kept by the blood shed under that distant Asian sun.

Sing not to me the praises of that unholy War, for many will remain there forever more.

Like the proverbial albatross around my neck, that jungle war will haunts my reverie until the devil shuffles his deadly deck.

Then that jungle war will end for me... with Aces and Eights...You see!