

**Frank John**

*The Tenderness of Life's Emotion's*

New York: Frank John Publications (1979)

**\$250**

THE  
TENDERNESS  
OF LIFE'S EMOTION'S  
BY FRANK JOHN



First edition. Tall octavo. [26]pp. Stapled illustrated light brown wrappers. Modest soiling and wear, very good or better. Self-published poetry chapbook by Trinidadian street poet John. John spent much of the 1970s and 80s in London and New York, where, along with figures such as Linton Kwesi Johnson, Carlton Lindsay Barrett, and Ted Joans, he was active in the diverse literary scenes of the black diaspora. The Dutch publisher Paul Breman, who published John in his influential Heritage series of black poets, recalls that John was “probably the gentlest creature I have ever known...He would go around town reading his poems on street corners, selling broadsides and small booklets of them, printed and illustrated by friends...it was great when you heard it, in his very fetching voice” (*The Heritage Series of Black Poetry, 1962-1975: A Research Compendium*)

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