Nikki Giovanni

* known for being both outspoken and honest
* controversial, lyrical, empowering, and personal
* proud African-American
  + a daughter, a mother, and an educator
  + wrote over two dozen books
    - poetry
    - illustrated children's books
    - essays
  + Awards
  + 22 honorary doctorate
  + NAACP Image Award for Literature
  + 2003 Grammy nomination
  + Named "Woman of the Year" by Ebony, Mademoiselle, and Ladies Home Journal.
  + 1st recipient of the Rosa Parks Women of Courage Award