



ECHOES

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Stories untold get lost in the mind

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INTRODUCTION

According to William Wordsworth; "*poetry is the spontaneous overflow of powerful feelings; it takes its origin from emotions recollected in tranquility*".

Robert Frost said; "*poetry is when an emotion has found its thought and the thought has found words*".

For me, poetry is the truest and most beautiful way of self-expression, which is what this short work I have put together is about.

Where you can take a journey '*Inside of me*' and find an '*Escape*' for all the pent-up emotions, take a peep '*Behind the Smile*'; relive how the blast of '*Jan 27,2002*' helped to put '*Life*' in perspective for lots of people.

Echoes is a creative work that at its worst will leave you refreshed and relaxed after reading and at most, it broadens your horizon and gives you new thoughts to ponder upon.

Welcome to a creative Eldorado!!!

DEDICATION

To everyone whose heart is connected to mine, through blood and love.

INSIDE OF ME

There it stood across the hallway,
Its stare stung me like a bee.
It looked ready to dislocate my skull from my atlas.
It let out a growl.
Me to rest, it was ready to lay

I moved an inch backwards
The door handle pierced me and I held on to it really tight
Could not count on luck because, today was not my lucky day
But if I calculate well and I am really fast, I can
Go to safety, run out through it and open the door.

I doubt if I can achieve that
My sympathetic nervous system had gone on a vacation
And so, my adrenal gland was off duty
My femur could have as well been made of wool
And my stupid metatarsals looked frozen

It growled again to remind me of its presence
The only light that shone were its red huge eyes
It bared its horrible looking canines at me
And used its claws to scrape thin air
It took just a step forward and the whole house shook tremendously

It was my entire fault; I had turned it into a monster.
It kept on following me everywhere I went
I opened the door and tried to run
But before I could, MY CONSCIENCE leapt at me
And tore deep down into my soul!!!

JANUARY 27, 2002

Alack the day
Angels could testify
About how we worshipped God
Agbada and fila, his best cloth he wore
Amala and Edikaikong, his best food he ate
And then, he was off to save lives
Albe his to save, he could not.
All the earth shook beneath our feet
Aback, the sun was drawn
Atomic acoustic acrasia
Buildings bowed, trees trembled and I
Was wondering why we were all wandering
Tears as well as blood flowed
It took days for another day to come
And it has taken years to realize that
In the reaping, I was not the only family visited
A thousand
Hopeless hopes, liveless lives and dreamless dreams
Swarm in the hyacinth covered canal
Alack the day
Angels could testify
That Eko was visited by Azrael

BEHIND THE SMILE

No one but me knew how I felt,
When I brought him to his knees
And his brains off, I blasted
Zeus I was to them
To me, I was just a puppet

No one but me knew how I felt
When the barreled boot pulled the trigger
Like a goat placed in the lion's den I felt
Screams and tears, sirens and gunshots
There I was, like a lake in winter, watching
As orphan hood engulfed my soul

No one but me knew how I felt
When I looked into the camo's eyes on my knees
Fury, erupted like that of a volcano
But pity smiled at me through the crack in his eyes
The hands of hope I tried to shake, but he
Pulled the trigger and darkness embraced me

No one but me knew how I felt
As I welcomed the man who gave me birth
He has served dutifully and his reward was,
An ocean of blood and a thousand souls
His badge he had laid to rest at the feet of
PEACE, when it danced into the country.

WHO TURNED OFF THE LIGHT?

Before I come, I do not give you a beep
Instead I creep
You can call me a thief
Because what I take will cause you much grief

I usually do not steal your money
Because it is not as sweet as honey
I steal something better
So that to no one, would you be able to write a letter

I steal one of your sense organs
Do not be surprised, that is my slogan
I will not cause you much pain
So, you can give me what I want with fain

The fact is that I steal and make you useless
Even if you wear a beautiful dress
Hold what you have very tight
Because I am Glaucoma, the thief of sight

PARADOX

I once met a blind man
Who taught me to see.
He changed my perspective of the word vision
It was like he passed my sight through a rejuvenator.

I was opportune to live with the deaf
They taught me to hear and listen
Now I can listen to and enjoy the sweet melodies of trees
The cries of a broken heart can be heard by me

Years ago, I sat across the table with a dumb lady
She taught me to speak
I learnt the mastery of diction
Ways in which I could talk were handed to me on a platter of gold.

Yesterday I met a lame man
Who taught me to walk
He taught me to run in a race and emerge the winner
Even better, now I am a professional in mountain climbing.

Finally, today a retard taught me in a seminar
She taught me to think
To see beyond and soar above my predicament
And say thanks to God no matter my situation.

GONE

Lisa said, "Why do you keep dirtying the room?"
I do not even know why I rented the room with you
I doubt if in your life you have ever held a broom
But I can never trade you even for yū

What is your problem if I have a drink?
You cannot control me so do not dare think
I said I love you but that does not make me your baby
Do not forget that I am the almighty Garry

Do not worry; the room would be tidy before you are back
Make sure you come back before it is dark
Lisa, you must bring something home for me and I am serious about it
If not, I would tie you and throw you in a pit

Garry, humble yourself or you would crash
Cause you are egocentric, rude and harsh
The road you are heading is too dangerous to ply
Before long, your home would become the sty

Beautiful Lisa asked me, "How do I look?"
"Ugly", I said and scattered the room some more
"I hate you", she said and at me she jokingly threw a book
"I hate you too", I replied and watched her walk out the door.

Garry gave me a deafening slap
I shouted in tears, "Get away you monster,
I never want to see you again, woman beater"
He banged the door and said, "Like I ever want to see you too, you crap"

Lisa never saw the cleaned-up room
Because on her way back she met her doom
She died in a car accident
I cried so much till tears I had to rent

I never saw Garry again
It was like concerning his life, death sold me a bargain
In his anger, the road he tried to cross
But only left this world, what a great loss

Now, here I stare and wish
I could turn the hands of the clock just an inch
To see my friends again and change the last words and situations we had
together
Oh! I would have cherished them forever

So, I have decided to make everyone smile
Even if I have to go the extra mile
I would say the "I love you's" when necessary
Because life is too short for me to tarry

ESCAPE

Do not leave the house!!!!
For me you have to cater
If not, you I would batter
I will not stop till you are in tatters

Do not leave the house!!!!
Your beauty I want no one to behold
Unto her neck he decided to hold
So, sit down and do as you are told

Do not leave the house!!!!
You egocentric bastard
With that he hit her hard
And threw her down the stairs like a pack of cards

Do not leave the house!!!!
He fumed and yelled
And watched as down the stairs she rolled
Broken and shattered, her skull gave way for her brain to be spilled

Do not leave the house!!!!
Now to whom would he be lord?
She did not leave the house
But instead left the world!!!!

STAGGERING BOOTS

As father's feet danced to the rhythm of the bottle
And the spirit of the beats enveloped him
I cowered
For fear of being turned to a zebra

Mama's eyes shone no longer
Each time she told her Cinderella story
I guess she found out that,
Cinderella never turned to a punching bag

I remember the day he dealt the blow
That transported mama to
The realm of quietus
As he danced to the rhythm of the bottle

It's been years since
I sent father to bastille
And one thing I am sure of is,
He dances no longer to the rhythm of the bottle

FLOWER

One fine day,
I met daisy
She was in her bloom
But had lost her flower
To the shearer in his room

A MILLION PIECES

It was whole.
I gave you the keys
Out of trust
You drove and
Drove and
Drove, so recklessly
You pumped it with bitterness
And cleaned it with tears
You bashed it with words
Till its beauty was gone
Leaving only broken ashes.
I trusted you
With the keys to my heart
You returned it in pieces.

MESS

Today you came to drop the bomb
On a love we built for years
How on earth am I supposed to survive?

So here I am
With watery eyes and a stuffed nose
Searching for memories of you
To keep my mind still

But all I find
Is the fart you left behind
When you walked out the door.

NOT ALL MEN

Not all men
Waltz around in black
With knives to stab you in the back
And sticks to give you heart a whack

Some come bearing gifts
With smiles and winks
Words that hurt like a stick
Hugs that stab till you are weak

All men you must sift,
Till the bad are down the sink
The crux is in your pick
Because not all men of evil reek

BIRTHDAY WISH

Ade said,
It was trade by barter
My birthday,
Became mother's death day

So, each time I blow the candle
I make a wish
Let my children be gifts
And not a means of exchange

A WALK IN TIME

When I was 90 years old
I sat and watched my great grandchildren play
Smiling at them
With quarter of my teeth gone

Then I turned 45years
I eavesdropped on my daughters' discussion
About the guys who kept admiring them
I began reminiscing about my teenage days

Later I became 23years old
I remembered how I was floating in the sky
The day my husband knelt and said
"Will you marry me?"

I can vividly recall when I was one
I kept seeing faces smiling at me
Saying words, I couldn't quite understand
And trying so hard to make me laugh

Now I am in my mother's belly
Kicking furiously because I'm so uncomfortable
Trying so hard to think about
What the world holds in store for me.

LIFE

My mum always says life is short.
I have this neighbor,
And I am wondering
If he is life.