

POETRY

Spread Across My Lap

Adeniran Abdbasit Adeyemi

The moon shines bright,
Leaves brew whispers,
The cock crows,
And birds catch the breeze of a lonely night.

Whenever the sky grows cold,
Spread across my lap,
Like grasses laying feathers gently on the ground.
You, the virgin moon, if the wind is kind,
I will shelter you with a blanket of love,
As a hen shields her chicks on summer days.

Call me a thief,
For I know the language of poets,
Whose words soothe fractured hearts.
I steal only to give...
Spread across my lap.

If the sun sets clear on a golden day,
Let yourself rest atop my lap,
As the friendly white cradled in the eyelid of the sky.
Let me weave you into the alphabet of love,
Reflected deep in the temple of my heart's onus.

For your beauty, so alluring,
Is a gateway to heaven.
It is a treasure I long to keep forever.

Oh, fear not the drums or songs of rebels.
Let us not end like impromptu death.
Fear not the tribulations of the world...
Accept instead the eternal spice of love.

Author's Note



Adeniran Abdbasit Adeyemi is a 28-year-old Nigerian, poet, writer, teacher, language transcriber, painter, and literary enthusiast. He enjoys volunteering for non-governmental organizations and is known for his thought-provoking and emotionally resonant poetry which explores themes of love, life, nature, and social issues. Adeniran's writing style is characterized by its depth, imagery, and lyricism. Many of his works have recently appeared or are forthcoming in *Brittle Paper*, *CÓN-SÌÒ Poetry Magazine*, Issue 4, *Brigitte Poirson Poetry Contest 2022*. He is also a strong advocate for literature and the arts, actively promoting literary culture and supporting emerging writers. Adeniran is a fellow of the Ebedi International Writers Residency 2024. He can be found @AbdbasitAdeyemi on x (formerly Twitter), and Adeniran Abdbasit Adeyemi on Instagram, Facebook, and Substack.