

POETRY

The Weight of Becoming

Abdulrazaq Godwin Omeiza

I wake to a world that's too loud,
where the mirror holds questions, not answers.
Who is this face staring back?
A patchwork of yesterday's doubts
and tomorrow's fragile hopes.

They tell me to dream big,
to leap before I look,
but what if the ground isn't there?
What if I fall into the cracks
between who I am
and who they expect me to be?

I carry a phone full of half-smiles,
filtered moments stitched into a story
I barely recognize.
The likes, the comments, they're applause in an empty theater.
I'm left wondering if anyone sees
the person behind the screen.

Sometimes, I just want to disappear
not forever, but long enough
to breathe without the weight of expectation.
To stand under a sky that doesn't judge,
to feel the rain and not care if I get wet.
Would the world even notice I was gone?

But then, there's the music.
The beats that drown out the noise,
the lyrics that know me better than I know myself.
There's the friend who texts at midnight,
"are you okay?" when no one else asks.
There's the dream, faint but alive
that whispers, "You're more than enough."

So I take a step,
not because I have it all figured out,
but because standing still feels too heavy
I don't have to know the ending yet.

I am a story, still being written,
a song still finding its melody.
And maybe, just maybe,
that's enough for now.

Author's Note



Abdulrazaq Godwin Omeiza is a 16-year-old poet, scriptwriter, and student from Ibadan, Oyo State, Nigeria. Currently studying at the Government College Ibadan, Godwin is inspired by the environment, the school's teachers, and the achievements of its alumni, such as Nobel Laureate Wole Soyinka. He is a dedicated member of the Ubuntu Leaders Academy Network. Godwin is a passionate advocate for good leadership, empathy, and other related values. He is a great lover of literature, and finds inspiration in his mother, whose literary reactions and unwavering support drive him forward. When not writing poems, scripts, or articles, Godwin enjoys animation, acting, and playing chess.