

**POETRY**

**Jagun Quareeb Alabi**  
*African Echoes of Eden*

*The Soil Remembers*

The soil remembers every tread,  
Barefoot prophets, warriors bled.  
Underneath the mango tree,  
Ghosts of prayers whisper free.  
From Nile to Niger, drums resound,  
In broken chains our roots are found.  
Even the dust is not in vain —  
It drank our sweat, it knows our pain.  
Yet morning breaks in golden hue,  
Africa sings in morning dew.  
From ashes rise her sacred men,  
The Eden lost shall bloom again.

*When God Walked Barefoot*

God walked barefoot on this land,  
Cradled it with weathered hands.  
He wept with mothers bent in grief,  
He sowed defiance like a leaf.  
We are not broken, just refined,  
Wounds have taught the soul to shine.  
Beneath each scar, a hymn is sung —  
Proof that heaven speaks in tongues.

*Resilience Wears a Wrapper*

She wakes before the cock has crowed,  
Wearing strength like tribal code.  
Her back is straight, her hands are worn,  
She weaves tomorrow from the thorn.  
She feeds a child, she mends the rain,  
She dances softly through the pain.  
And though the world forgets her name,  
Africa breathes because she came.

### Author's Note



**Jagun Quareeb Alabi** (popularly known as Emini\_Excellent), age 22, is a multifaceted Nigerian writer, student of History and International Studies at the University of Ilorin, and an emerging youth advocate. He comes from a humble family background and currently lives in Ogun State, Nigeria. A Muslim by faith and a recognized Sustainable Development Goals Champion, he combines scholarship, creativity, and leadership in unique ways that reflect his vision for a more inclusive and hopeful society. In 2025, he was selected as an Activating Leadership Potential Fellow, further strengthening his leadership journey. He also serves as the Official Campus Ambassador at the International Model United Nations and as the Official Ambassador for the Advance Initiative for Innovation and Development.

Quareeb's skills and competencies cut across web development, research, academic writing, solution journalism, advocacy, and community leadership. Whether building platforms, leading initiatives, or writing content, Quareeb is consistent in his mission: to transform knowledge into action, harness creativity and collaboration, and leave a lasting impact in Nigeria, Africa, and beyond.