

POETRY

Zaynah Ibrahim Barje

Shades of Chaos

In this storm, I am one with the wind.
I am a body of all the black languages the white ear refuses to hear,
a body wrapped in the embrace of gloom, tucked in its bitter grip.
And this body would tell the story of how it was preyed upon
by the turbulence of grief on its hunt for a new home.
How darkness became its home with no room for light.
How it back-carried chaos with a piece of hope linen and named it peace.
Chaos is the scar my home boys bore to be named men.
The heavy prayer on the tongue of a bewildered mother in search of her lost stars.
The silence beside a broken heart in a pool of itself.
And sometimes, chaos is a disguised rainbow, of dark and colorful shades as gloom,
as turbulence, as darkness, as peace, as hope, as scar, as prayer, as silence,
and as all the storms hungry of colors.

Author's Note



Zaynah Ibrahim Barje is a Nigerian graduate of Biological Sciences from Ahmadu Bello University Zaria, Kaduna State Nigeria. She is also a member of the Hilltop Creative Arts Foundation. She has a great passion for writing and public speaking. As an individual who believes that there is life in art, she is currently learning and exploring diverse art forms alongside her science profession. Her works have been published in Artnews.com, and *Blackscript Anthology*, among others.

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