

Poetry Series

LLM Mbatha

- poems -

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***Awu, angazi mina angazi-**

khala zome nhliziyo yami
usuyangala 'thululu' wami

Awu, angazi
Mina angaz' ukuthi ng'yoba yini

ngaphandle kothando lwakho
Uthi uyahamba, usudelile ngakho uyangishiya

Ungishiya nobani?
Nomathemba, ithemba lami

Usukhathele amagama ami nezethembiso
Uthi, owami umhlaba nezulu okomoya

Amaphupho awalabo abaleleyo
Kodwa umhlaba ungowabaphaphemeyo

Amaphupho aphephukisa okwezicucu zamaphepha
Amazwi akho ayantsonstotha, ayahlababa

Impumputhe ibona yedlule obona kahle
Isithulu sisina sedlule ozwa kancono

Iqiniso liyaphosisa kulomhlaba
Khala zome nhliziyo yami-

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***Incwadi yothando yesiZulu**

Ngifisa sengathi ungangibhalela incwadi
Incwadi yothando yesiZulu
Esho ngemibalabala na ngamabalabala
Exoxa indaba ejulile
Indaba yemizwa nemicabango
Idayimane, ngelo thando lweqiniso
Omhlophe, ngowenhliziyi engenasici
Indilinga, ngoba olwethu kalunasiphetho
Oluhlaza-sasibhakabhaka, ngoba wena ucabanga ngami
Unxantathu, ngoba amazulu aphezulu
Kanjalo nomhlaba nolwandle ngaphansi bayazi
Onsundu, ngoba kuyitshe kunothile futhi okwemvelo
Njengomhlabathi ongaphansi kwezinyawo zami
Noma ungawu shiya umbala ophuzi
Kungani kumele ungithande ngenhliziyi enesikhwele! ?
Ngifisa sengathi ungangibhalela incwadi
Engiyoyigaxa emqaleni
Ukuze zonke izimbali zase maqaleni
Ziyohawuka lapho zingibheka
Ngenxa yayo yonke lemibala egqamile
Incwadi yothando yesiZulu
Ngobuhlalu bothingo-lwenkosazana
Ubuhlalu base mazweni aqhelileyo
Minake sengiyoba nentokozo emangalisayo
Lapho ngiphendu-phendula ulimi lwakho
Kancane-kancane, futhi ngesikhulu isineke
Ukuze ugcine usukwazi kahle hle
Ukubingelela abazali bami
Ngendlela eyiyona-yona, ngolimi lwesiZulu

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***kungokukaThixo**

Akusikhona okwethu mngani wami
Umzuzu nomzuzu siweboleka kuThixo
Konke esiyikho kungokwakhe, kusezandleni
Zakhe ukuthi sisayobuye sibonane yini

Sibobane kuphi kanjani singakanani
Injaloke indlela yesikhathi, nanini singavalelisana
Kungakoke okubhadalwa yithi- sibhadalela amanoni-
empilo: obungani-obuqotho nothando-lweqiniso

Ungangitheli ngezimathonsi eziconsayo
Ungangesabeli ngovalo oluheqezayo
Thatha nanka amaphupho ethu bese
Uthola izizathu zokuqhubekela phambili

Ngoba, noma ngabe yini engavela namuhla
Kodwa, kungokukaThixo okuyovelela thina

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***Kuwunikeza ugqozi umphefumulo wami**

Kuwunikeza ugqozi umphefumulo wami
Ukwazi ukuthi kuyafinyeleleka kukho
Lokho okungaphezu kwamandla onke
Kanti futhi angidingi ukuthi ngibe
Yisikhondlakhondla noma isihlakaniphi
Esizedlula zonke
Konke engikudingayo ukuthi:
Nanoma ngabe yini leyo engiyenzayo-
NGIYENZISISE

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***Mame (eka Tana)**

Mame ngiyakubonga ngoba wena
Ukhulise insizwa; izinsizwa, nezintombi
Wena uwedwa wawuthwala umboko wesinda
Wawumelela mame ungendlovu
Ngamandla oNgaphezulu
Wawasondelanisa amachophe, ahlangana
Usuku lwabelethana nolunye
Waziqinisa waqinisela
Mame, mukhulu okuqinisayo
Ntombi kaZulu, Sithuli sika Ndaba, Ndabezitha!
Engathi uMdali angakubeka uze udle ezabazukulu-

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***Ngibe m'nyama**

Ukube nganginakho ukuthi ngizikhethela
Ngalolosuku olwandulela isiqalo soqobo lwami
Ngangiyomcela kahle uMveli-Nqangi
Ngithi kuye: Mdali ngenze ngibe m'nyama

Ngibe m'nyama ngifane nobusuku
Ngoba ubusuku buhle
Ngibe m'nyama ngifane nefu lemvula
Ngoba owami umjuluko wondla umhlaba

Ngibe m'nyama ngifane nolwandle
Ngoba eyami imicabango ijule kanjalo
Ngibe m'nyama ngifane nenhlabathi
Ngoba owami umoya unotho kangako

Ngibe m'nyama, amehlo ansundu, izinwele zewuli
Ngibe m'nyama, ikhala elikhulu, izindebe eziyugqinsi
Ikhona ngiyogwinya uthingo-lwenkosazana maqede
Ngikhazimule ngenkazimulo yemisebe yenkululeko

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***umsinjwana wohleko lwakho**

Silinde eside isikhathi lesi
Ngicishe ngalibala
Ngalowomuzwa engiwuzwa kuphela
Uma ngibheke emehlweni akho
Lowo msinjwana wohleko lwakho
Leso sigubhu sokulangazelela kwami
Sathi sesitholene futhi
Kwangathi siyaqabukana nqa
Singakawagwinyi awokubuyelana
Kabusha
Singakalunambithi uju lothando
Singakalithathi nelokuqala ijika
Awu! Sawa bhu phansi!
Kwangathi siphephethwa omubi lo umoya
Kodwa uma uthi uyangithanda
Kumele uqondisise
Ngobugexegexe bendlela
Ubuntofontofo besikhashana
Ibuye ibe njalo eyothando
Eya othandweni, Duduzile-

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[Zulu, ingoma] Kuyoze kube nini...

Kuyoze kube nini unginethisa ngezi mvula
Uyoze ubone nini ukuthi ngi ya ku thanda
Kudala ngibambe ubala olungenawo um'bala
Unyaka neshumi lezinyanga ngikhulumisana nawe
Kanti eyetshe yini eyakho inhliziyo
Vula bo ngingene, lalela ngiya khuluma:
Ngisho nezinyoni kazisayihayi ingoma yothando
Ngoba zizwelana nosizi lwenhliziyo yami
Pho wena wehlulwa yini ukuqondisisa
Ngibabonile bephuma bengena
Ngababona besina bededelana
Amasoka akho
Kodwa angeke bakuthande ngalendlela mina
Engikuthanda ngayo
Thatha nasi isandla sami sihambe sibaleke sindize
Okwezi nyoni silishiye phansi elamagade ahlabayo
Siye kwelamaphupho afezekayo,
kwelothingo-lwenkosazana kanye nelanga eliphumayo.

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[Zulu, ingoma] sengi zo bhala...

sengi zo bhala epheshaneni
incwadi encane
ngifake ikheli, isitembu
ngiyithumele kwa-Zulu, e Thekwini
nhliziyo yami!
uthando lwakho
ntaba ezikude
ngafa yi nkumbulo
sengi zo bhala epheshaneni
ngibhalele u malume
ngifuna ubuhlobo obuhle
sengi zo thumela abakhongi
kwa-Zulu, e Thekwini-

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[Zulu, ingoma] Zula

Ngi zula nawe
U zule nami
Ngi phuph' emini
Mangi cabanga ngawe
Nhliziyo yam' ivel' ishaye ngamandla
Emathafeni le kwa-Zulu
Phansi kwentaba ye Tafula
Phesheya kolwandle e Ngilandi
Ezinzulwini zobusuku
Isandla sakho esandleni sami
Sithandwa sami uma
Ngi cabanga ngawe
Sengathi nawe ucabanga ngami! ?
U zula nami
Dudu wami

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[Zulu, inkondlo] Amagama

Ngifisa sengathi bengingakwazi
Ukwakha ubukhosi
Ubukhosi obunesithunzi kanye nomnotho
Ngama gama nje qha
Amagama antofontofo okuphathaphatha
Amagama aqinile okuqondisa
Amagama enzayo
Hhayi akhulumayo
Kodwa ke sithandwa sami, wena kanye nami siyazi
Ukuthi amagama ewodwa awenelanga
Ngoba ukube ebenele
Imizwa yenhliziyo yakho ibiyozwana-
ibuye ihambisane naleyo yenhliziyo yami

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[Zulu, inkondlo] Asibe nje ngemifula, s'thandwa

I-Tafula angeke liphinde lihlangane ne Fuji
Asibe nje ngemifula, s'thandwa
Imifulakazi, hhayi izintaba
Ohanjeni lwayo loku yo busisa ilizwekazi
Lawo nkulunkulu ngama themba afanelekileyo
Lapho ugwadule luyisibuko se zulu
Imifulakazi igijima ukusukela ezizibenikazi
Kayiziqgizi qakala ngalezo zinto ezifana
Nemincele, imigoqo, noma ubuzwe
Imifulakazi iyagijima
Ukweluleka kwayo
kanye nebanga phakathi kwayo
Akusho lutho, ngoba
Imifulakazi inesiqiniseko
Sokuthi isayobuye ihlangane
Kude le
Emaphethelweni olwandlekazi thizeni

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[Zulu, inkondlo] Bekezela Sibusiso

Bekezela Sibusiso, kuba m'nyama lapho sekuzokusa
Uze ungalilahli elakho ithemba
Beka konke kuM'Dali wakho yena okuqinisayo
Akumise ngazo zombili
Ngisho noma zivunguza izivunguvungu zalomhlaba
Gcina izinyawo emhlabathini, ikhanda emazulwini
Amehlo uwabhekise phambili
Uma zibaba ezimathonsi, khala ushona ukhona
Ungakhohlwa umkhuleko
Nobuhlakani buka yihlo
Nokukhalipha kuka mame
Nenjulalwazi yoBuntu basemandulo
Bekezela Sibusiso, olwa-kusasa luqhakazile

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[Zulu, inkondlo] Cala Lami

Ungangilalisi ngedwa eKapa
Ngiyawesaba ama khaza
Ubusuku bude, ubusika buyasika!
Isithwathwa sembula singene okwe-cala
Limubala muni elami icala?
Aw! Isomiso ngane yakwethu!
Kwaze kwakude ekhaya kwa-Zulu
Kwesi cwasile isimo se zulu
Ungangilalisi ngedwa eKapa
Yembula ungene, cala lami...

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[Zulu, inkondlo] Cula Nhliziyo

Cula nhliziyo mus' ukulila
Kuzobalela, lingakashoni
Kuba munyama ma sekuzosa
Kushayumoya makuz' imvula
Ubusika bufika bedlule
Noma ungasazi, ungasiqondi
Kunesizathu, cula nhliziyo!
Nakwahlabayo amagabade
Yeb' uMdumise nhliziyo yami!
Cula nhliziyo mus' ukulila...

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[Zulu, inkondlo] eAlbert-Park

ngangi ngenandaba negama lomuthi
esasi hlezi ngaphansi kwawo epaki
ngingenandaba nom'bala wesibhakabhaka
mhlawumbe sasibomvu
mhlawumbe sasiluhlaza! ?
ngingenandaba nomsindo we nyoni
ihlikiza utshani
noma ukugigitheka kwezingane
ezazedlula ngemuva kwethu
noma imoto yabakwasidlodlo igijima
inyathela izimbali
empeleni, ngangingeke ngibe nandaba
ukube ilanga laliwela esicathulweni sami
ngeSonto, eThekwini
eAlbert-Park: siqabulana-

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[Zulu, inkondlo] eNtabeni iSandlwana

Kwacishizibani, kwahlwemini!
Zatheleka ezakwaZulu zingangotshani
Habo! Kwachitheka gula-linamasi!
Kwash' izikhotha
UZulu endlela zimhlophe
UZulu edl' amadoda
UZulu emnyama ngenkani
Engasahlehli engasabheki emuva
Ibutho likaShaka!
Iklwa nesibhamu!
Wathinti bhubesi: impi!
Thula mntakwethu ungakhali
Kwaphequka bsheshwana
Kwaketuka bhantshana elibomvana
Giya giya webutho likaNdaba
Uyadela wena osulapho
Maye! Umntakabani eSandlwana?

Kwathi angiyi qhubekise lenkondlo
Ngiyiqhubekise njalo-njalo
Noma amade ngingasenawo
Lusekhona ugqozi no fuqufuqu
Kuthi angimusho kuthi angibasho
Ngibabize ngamagama, amaqhawe
Ngingapheli ngingaphumuli ngingaphefumuli
Ngihlola umhlola owehlula abadala
Ubani ongaqeda ezenkosi ezamakhosi
Lingaphuma liyoshona entshonalanga
Nginkondloza, ngihaya ingoma kaZulu
Ziyoqoma kuphi ezakithi na
Uma izinsizwa zisele entabeni
Inyamazana iyolugaxa ucu, mina ngiyafunga
Thula mntakwethu ungakhali
Uyadela yena oselapho
Maye! eNtabeni iSandlwana!

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[Zulu, inkondlo] Ibhayisikili elidala

Bheka! Ukuncika kwalo obondeni!
Licosha izintuli, likhithiza ukuthomba
Phela lena kwaku-y-imilenze yakhe yensimbi
Eya esikoleni, esontweni, noma eya ko qhetha
Ngamhla lishisa noma linetha
Kwathi ngalanga limbe wabuya ewulwandle
Engakhulumisi muntu
Ngaqaphelisa udaka eyembeni lakhe
Kanye notshani embungculu yekhanda lakhe
Emva kwesikhathi ngacaciselwa ngengozi engatheni
Ayeke wahlangabezana nayo
Phela washayisa itshe wavuka phansi
Ngalelo langa, ngabo bonke lobo busuku
Imilenze yensimbi yalala phansi, yalala phandle
Kodwa kwathi ngosuku olwalandela lolo
Kuse mpondo zankomo nge hora lesihlanu
Ngavuswa umsindo wakhe
Ehlikihla insimbi
Eshikisha irabha
Eselungele ukungena indlela
Kodwa manje selincika ngobonda usuku lonke-

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[Zulu, inkondlo] iFuji, ne Tafula

Umcabango wathumela isintu enyangeni
Iqhelelene kangakanani iFuji, ne Tafula
Uma ngingethuba lokuthi ngizikhethela
Ngingakhetha ukuphila isikhashana maqede
Ngishone, kunokuthi ngingaphili kwa nhlobo
Yingakho ngingena kuzisola ngokuthanda isihambi
Ngawe ngisangane ngikugijimise okwenkukhu
Inqunywe ikhanda, angiyengenanga ingozi
Yeqiniso engangilazi kahle hle
Iqiniso lokuthi isikhathi esasikusondeze kimi
Yiso kanye esasiyokuntshontsha futhi
Sikuntshontshe ngoku phazima kweso
Ukuphupha ngawe emini kungisondeza kuwe
Ngokusondela okwedlula lokho okomzimba
Ukudlondlobala kothando kuyamangalisa
Induku enhle igawulwa ezizweni kusho isiZulu
Sasendulo, kanjalo ngiyakholelwa ekutheni
Wena uyiyo kanye leyo nduku enhle (yasezizweni)
Uthando lunginike amalungelo okuthi ngiphuphe emini
Amalungelo okucabanga lokho okungaphezu kwamandla
Ngibuye ngikholelwe yikho nge sibindi nango gqozi
Ngakhoke tshela mina, ngitshela kahle, ngitshelise
Iqhelelene kangakanani iFuji, ne Tafula?

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[Zulu, inkondlo] imbali

ekuseni bewu finqekile
okwesibhakela saMandla
manje sewuvuleke uthe nge
okwenhliziyo yentomb' ithand' isoka
iveze ezijulile izimfihlakalo belu
ithembele emuseni wesandla esifunayo
kodwa sibe singaz' ukuthi sifunelani
ungubuhle
ungumlingo
lapho sengithi nje kawuphili
unyakazile
wanginyakazisa ngokumangala komntwana
ebona kabusha
amacenjan' aphuzi aqhekezile
agcwalisa indawana yami ngokuqhakaza namakha
bewuhlezi ukanjena yini, kimi! ?

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[Zulu, Inkondlo] Incwadi yo thando

Ngingu mfokazi nje
Wase dolojaneni elincinane
Elisele emuva
Lapho uthando lusewu thando
Futhi, luseyikho konke
Ngithanda ngoku bona
Njengaso sonke isiwula esinga fundisekile
Ngikholelwa kulezozinto
Ezinemibalabala ne zinesimo
Uthando lunje ngo thingo lwenkosazana
Olusontene, futhi olugobile
Noma ngabe yini esengqondweni yakho
Ngizoyamukela ngenje ndoda
Ubo khuluma ungesabi
Lapho sihlangani kusasa
Uma kubuhlungu
Ngizo wa cashisa amehlo ami
Isikhashana
Kodwa uma kungukuthi
Ufuna ukuqhubeka noku ngithanda
Ngiyokuthanda ngeqiniso
Ngiyokuthanda ngokwemvelo
NJALO-NJALO
Okomfulakazi wase mandulo
Wona okhukhulela ulwandle
Ngosawoti kanye nezinyembezi
Zasemazweni aqhelileyo

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[Zulu, inkondlo] Incwadi yothando II

Olwami uthando olwamahhala
Lukhululekile, luyakukhulula
Ukuthi ube yikho lokho
Ofisa ukuba yikho
Noma kune nxenye yami
Engathanda ukuthi ikugige
Ikugigele esihlakaleni sesandla sami
Ibuye ikwemboze
Ngezintende zezandla zami
Okwetshe le rubhi* noma ubuhlalu
Beqophelo eliphezulu
Ukuze ngiku vikele
Ngibambebele kuwe
Ungalahleki nangengozi
Ungalahleki nangenhloso

Ngingakugiga nje kuphela
Ngokuthi
Ngikugigele ekhanda lami
Ngemicabango yokucabanga ngawe
Ngenhliziyo ngikwemboze
Ngemizwa yoku langazelela
Kodwa ngikukhulule
Ukuthi ukhululeke
Ukungephula inhliziyo
Ngabe luyini kanti uthando
Uma lungeyona inkululeko
Yefu lincibilika
Liphenduka ubala olubuhlazana

Lapho ngithi ngiyakuthanda
Nawe uthi uyangithanda
Yilowo kuphela umculo
Olangazelelwa izindlebe zami
Ngiyakuthanda
Ngikukhumbule
Ngiyakwesabela
Ngikukhalele
Ngoba akukho okumele
Kwenzeke
Ukuhlukumeza wena
Angikaze kule mpilo
Ngesabele enye impilo
Ukulahlekelwa yiyo

Noma
Sengibabonile impela
Baze babaningana
Ikakhukazi emaphusheni
Abakudala nabakusha
Akekho onjengawe
Uma kungukuthi

Mhlawumbe ngalanga limbe
Ngenxa yezimanga namanga
Lendlu isayo bhidlika
Ngiyo kwazi enhliziyweni yami
Ukuthi ngenze okusemandleni
Kodwa uthando,
uthando selukwenzile konke

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[Zulu, inkondlo] Inyanga ka Ntulikazi

Kunge lesingakhi lona ihora lapho ukuhlwa
Kupheza khona ukuphupha ngokukhanya kwasemini
Ize ibuye nini inhliziyo ekuzuleni kwayo
Ukuze ingqondo ishaye umthetho oqondisayo
Luze luxole nini uthando luzixolela lona
Ukuze lubone kahle ukuthi ithemba
Yigolide lezi wula
Njengoba uthingo-lwenkosazane lungumgwaqo wazo
Ukube bekunge khona okwa lezi zithombe ezimi balabala
Esazi thwebulayo
Futhi kungekhona okwale micabango yabanye abantu
Ngabe ngithi, konke kwaku yiphupho nje
Uthando siqabukana, ayikho ke leyonto!
Isoka elingena sici, ayikho ke leyonto!
Kwaku maphakathi no Ntulikazi?
Ziyayidliva ezika Zibandlela (izimvula)
Zigcwalisa imisele yasendulo ye Tafulakazi*
Imimoya ecothozayo isika idlule ethanjeni
Iyofinyelela em'nkantsheni ngenkemba ecijile
Yamazinga-okushisa
Ngicabanga iqhwa liwa ngaphezu kwe Fuji*
Amahora angu 36 ukusuka onyaweni lweTafula*
Ngizizwa ngifana ne ntaba!
Ngiphuphe ngawe izolo
Udlala imidlalo yezinsuku zobuwula
Leso Sandla esenza izimbali zaqhakaza
Senza ubuso bakho babenyezela kakhudlwana
Mina sangenza, Awu-phela mina!
Iliso lokuhalalisela!
Kubathatha esingakanani isikhathi
Abanye abantu ukuthi bathi:
Mhlawumbe kwakungadalelwe, singadalelwene
Kuthi lapho sebekushilo lokhu bese iyama yini
Inhliziyo ukushaya
Noma ingqondo, ukucabanga ngenyanga ka Ntulikazi

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[Zulu, inkondlo] iyona kanye inkumbulo yoku mamatheka kwakho

iyona kanye inkumbulo yoku mamatheka kwakho
nayo lemicabango yo-kuthi siyobonana futhi
eyenza usuku lwami luvele luphelele
ngisho noma imvula ingishaya kuzwele

uze ungangehlukani namaphupho ami
ngitshela ukuthi usayobuya kimi
ithemba lami lise mazwini owashoyo
ngethembise, usayobuya kimi

ungangilindisi inguna phakade nkosazana
ngingaze ngibe umdodovu wekhehla
ngifuna ukuku thokozisa
emhlabeni wethu sobabili

nginga buye ngi thini ngi bhale okunjani
ngiphe ithuba lokuku bonisa
kunelangabi eli phenjwa nguwe, kalicishi
ngisho-noma ingaphephetha imimoya

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[Zulu, inkondlo] Izimbali ze Nsimu

Ukube zonke izimbali bezingama rozi
Futhi zonke zibomvu
Kungabe ziseyizimbali na?
Zona kanye lezi esithanda ukuzi qgolozela
Uju ungabe lumnandi ngendlela efanayo yini
Ungabe lutholakala zindawo zonke yini
Uthingo-lwenkosazana luyilokhu oluyikhona
Ngenxa yayo yonke lemibala ehambisanayo
Thina kasefani yini nezimbali zeNsimu
Okungenani esweni lasezulwini
Ukube besi ngaba kanjalo okwangempela
Lendawo ibiyoba njenge Edeni (iNsimu)
Omunye nomunye ahlume
Sonke sibe ngabakhona

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[Zulu, inkondlo] Kodwa ng'yo lobola ngani...

Kodwa ng'yo lobola ngani le emazweni
Izinkomo zakithi zahamba no moya nje!
Aku ntombi umntanomuntu, uSuka Sihambe!
Umamatheka ngamhlophe la amehlwana
Anyathele ngonyawo, ipensela, kube sengathi
Uyawuzwela lo mhlabathi...
Aw! Sengiyolithetha ligcwele mina ka baba
Ngoba lo oseydilile, udli cala!
Kodwa Zulu uyangizwa na? !
Kusho mina ucelemba ubugawugawu-
Ogawul' abezizwe wagawul' abasemazweni!
Untombi z'ya mthanda z'yamlanda z'yamlandela!
Um'baban' uyabab' unjengo pelepele-
Omame bayakhala bathi lomfana
Useyinikeni lengane ngoba isencane nje...

LLM Mbatha

[Zulu, inkondlo] ku ngabe se ngi funa isandla ne ngalo yonke yini

ku ngabe se ngi funa isandla ne ngalo yonke yini
uma ngicela ukuthi u ngithande Fohloza wami
kodwa ubuye u ngishiyele isi khadlana
sokuthi ngibe yimi
ngibuye ngibe ngedwa, nje, ngesinye isi khathi

LLM Mbatha

[Zulu, inkondlo] Kunokuthula

Kunokuthula ekungeneni kobu suku
Uhlobo lokuthula okunga dingi lutho
Ngoba kwelisekile ngokuma nse
Ko mhlaba wonke, olunjena pho uxolo!
Luvala izindlebe zingezwa ngisho nokhuba
Kwesigidi sezimfinyezi, kepha zizwisise
Umcabango no mcabango, umzimba ukuzwe kahle
Ukuwotwawotwa yizandla zomoya omnyama
Ukubekelana kwezinto zanga phakathi
Kanye nezinto zangaphandle...
Ah! Uthando lungayi fumana enje intokozo! ?
Ma lungekwazi, ma lungakaze, kungani pho
Ngingavele ngihlale ngedwa, ngizigcinele lol' uxolo

LLM Mbatha

[Zulu, inkondlo] kuyangithokozisa

kuyangithokozisa
ukukhuluma nawe
ngisho noma
izintaba zingisithele
ngicabanga ukumamatheka kwakho
ngigcine sengihleka ngedwa
lapho ngisalele
sengizophaphama
ngiphupha kanjena
ngikuzwe usho
ungitshela ukuthi
kuyafana nje
nalapho kuwe
enhliziyweni yakho
uku phaphama, uku phupha
uku thandana kwethu...

LLM Mbatha

[Zulu, inkondlo] kwa-Nongoma

hamba nkanyezi
hamba nkanyezi uhambe nami
wena oyinhlamvu edubulayo
wena odonsa umsidlana
othi benye-benye ngomlilwana
ububhanyabhanya esibhakabhakeni sangokuhlwa
hamba nezifiso zenzliziyo
uze ungikhonzele ku lawo magquma
lawo mathafa
emaqeleni kwa-Nongoma
hamba nemicabango yeza-y-izolo
yamathole etshakadula
emadlelweni kwa-Ziphethe
emihosheni kwa-Minyamanzi
mhla izintombi ziya ko theza
mhla izinsizwa ziya ko shela
abafana beya ko senga
omame bekhwezela emaxhibeni
hamba nkanyezi uhambe nami
siwelele ngaphesheya
ngale kwezintaba
ngale kwemifula
ngale kwamalanga
ake ungithathe ungibeke
ngomhla kwa kusindwe ngobethole
amagula enamasi
amasimu ehlakuliwe
kusalotsholwa ngezoboya
mhla inyosi ihaya ezenkosi
kwa-Nongoma enhlalankosi

LLM Mbatha

[Zulu, inkondlo] Lapho bonke bethi ngeke ngilunge

Lapho bonke bethi ngeke ngilunge
Wena wathi ngiyolunga
Lapho ngangeswele isizathu sokuqhubekela
Phambili
Wena wangidudula ngemuva
Wena wakholelwa kimi
Ukuthi ngiyophakamela phezulu
Emva koku wela phansi
Lapho ngangomele izimpendulo
Wangipha amazwi akhaliphile
Wabekelela kimi
Ithemba, uthando, no mcebo wakho
Ukuze ngi landele wonke amaphupho ami
Kimina wabeka wonke amathemba
Yilokho engingaku qondisisanga
Wa bona ini kimi
Lena mina enginga yi bonanga
Wa qondisisa ukuqhuzuka endleleni
Wa cacisa isizathu samashobolo
Wangipha ithuba lesibili
Ngemuva kwethuba lesibili
Ukuba nawe (empilweni) kuyinhlahla enkulu
Inhlahla edla wonke amashobolo

LLM Mbatha

[Zulu, inkondlo] Masiqhubeke

Ngisho noma ulwandle lubuye lungazi
Ukuthi kumele lugini kuphi
Lapho izivunguvungu sezixakile
Kodwa kuse yi ntokozo khona
Ukubukela impilo
Ngoba impilo iyaqhubeka
Ngakho ke masiqhubeke sithandane
Noma ubunzima bungabakhona
Izinsuku zilandelana
Kodwa, awubheke nje
ukuqhakaza kwezinkanyezi
Okwenza um'nyama into yo buhle
Asithandaneni size si ndize
Nje nge zinyoni emoyeni
Ngamhla lishisa, ngamhla linetha
Wena nami sihaya ingoma
Sigida ngenxa yethuba
Loku thandana isigidi-
Masiqhubeke sithandaneni

LLM Mbatha

[Zulu, inkondlo] mhlawumbe nga langa limbe

mhlawumbe nga langa limbe, na ndawo yimbe
lapho ngi nga sa zezele
um'bani u yophinda usakaze isishozi
senhliziyo yami
maqede ngisangane ikhanda isibili
nga langa limbe mhla ngi bona uku mamatheka
uku mamatheka, emehlweni akho...

LLM Mbatha

[Zulu, inkondlo] Mhlawumbe ngangikuthanda

Mhlawumbe ngangikuthanda ngoba ngikukhumbule
Mhlawumbe ngangikukhumbule ngoba ngingakwazisisi
Mhlawumbe ngigijima nezihambi kanye nezi vakashi
Ngoba zona zifika maqede zedlule
Kungakaqhakazi ngisho nezimbali, futhi zingakabuni
Ukubamba kungu kubanjwa
Ngithanda lokho okungasobe kwaba ngokwami
Sengike ngayanga yonke inkanyezi egqamile
Sengike ngalala nenyanga ekhanyayo
Sengike ngasina nalo lonke usiba lotshani
Olukhula kuwo wonke amaqele aqhelile
Ngithande ulapho ukhona
Ngaleyondlela ngeke sahlukane
Izinkanyezi zivutha ngaphandle kwesici
Ngoba zona zivutha ziphezulu emazulwini

LLM Mbatha

[Zulu, inkondlo] Ngacela uku mamatheka

Ngacela uku mamatheka
Wena wanginika uhleko
Ngacela ubu suku
Wena wanginika inyanga (ekhanyayo)
Ngacela ubungani
Wena wanginika obuqotho
Kodwa
Angikaze ngicabange ukuthi
Uyowuthola lowo khiye
Wokuvula ijele elibandayo lo mzwangedwa
Ijele lenhliziyo engabazayo
Ekhetha inxenye ye sinkwa
Kunoku thatha ithuba
Loku landela okwayo
Ngoba ingenakho ukuqonda
Ukuthi uthando lu thatha konke
Noma lushiye konke
Ngi nga thini
Seku kudala kakhulu yini
Sekwa qhela kakhulu yini
Akukho okuguqukayo
Ngilale, ngavuka
Ngicabanga ngawe
Ungabe sesedlule yini isikhathi
Isikhathi sokuba nesi qiniseko
Isiqiniseko ngemizwa ye nhliziyo
Inhliziyo efuna okwayo

LLM Mbatha

[Zulu, inkondlo] ngangiyithanda

ngangiyithanda leyontombi eyephula inhliziyo yami
kodwa ezalomhlaba
ziyindida ziyaxaka ziyamangalisa
wangiphoxa sithandwa ngi kuthanda
wadlala ngothando lwami, mntanomuntu!
thula nhliziyo yami!
lala uphumule, kusile kusasa
ngoba uthando lukhona, nendlela ikhona
sengizo vukela
ethembeni lokuphinda ngithande futhi
omunye ngelinye ilanga
ngelinye ikusasa elingaziwa
ngelinye ithemba elingabulali
ithemba lokuphinda ngithande futhi

LLM Mbatha

[Zulu, Inkondlo] Ngi ya ku thanda

Angiku thandeli lokho
Ongangezela khona kodwa
Ngikuthandela lokho oyikho kimi
Ngi ya ku thanda
Ngingaceli lutho oluvela kuwe
Ngaphandle kokuthi
Ungithande nawe
Ngi ku thanda
Ngenhliziyo egcwele isikhwele
Uyangi thola na
Ngi ya ku khumbula
Uku kwanga
Ngi ya ku phathaphatha
Ngingakuboni
Ngi ya ku nkonkoshela
Noma zingisithele (izintaba)
Ngelula isandla sami
Phakathi kobusuku
Ngi phuthaza lolo thando
Engiqinisekile ngalo
Ngize ngilu thinte
Emaphusheni
Amaphupho am'nandi
Uma ngi phupha ngawe
Ngi ya mamatheka
Ngilele ngi ya mamatheka
Ezweni lama phupho
Lapho ungibheka maqede
Umamateheke
Usho kimi uthi
Ngi ya ku thanda
Uthi, 'akekho ofana nawe, Lungie! '
Uthando
Ngaphandle kwesi zathu
Ubusika ne hlobo
Alukh' olunjengalo
Olwethu luhamba lodwa
Yimi ngedwa owaziyo
Ngokuxhumana kwethu
Ngaphandle kwama gama
Lapho ubheka uthinta unyakaza
Intokazi, nguwe
Umculo, nguwe
Umlingo, nguwe
Nguwe uthando lwami
Ngi lala ngingalele ngijulile ngeqondo
Ngiwotawotana ne pheshana
Nge peni
Ngicabangisisa
Ngifisa sengathi bewukhona lapha
Khona manje
Ulele eduze kwami

Usho izinto kimi
Ngaphandle kokuphimisa amazwi
Yimina kuphela owaziyo kahle
Ngoku xhumana kwethu
Yimi kuphela owaziyo oqondisisayo
Yimi owakho, othanda wena

LLM Mbatha

[Zulu, inkondlo] Ngikufisela intokozo

Ngingasho kanjani ukuthi
Sekuphelile
Mina kanye lo owathi okwa phakade
Ngingacacisa kanjani
Ukuthi kungaba ncono kakhulu
Uma ngiyephula njengamanje
Inhliziyo yakho
Ngoba uma ngilinda
Ngabe ngichitha isikhi
Ngingazisho kanjani zonke lezi zinto
Ngawo kanye lomlomo
Owa kwanga wakwe thembisa
Lo mlomo owa hlebeza
Phakathi kobusuku wathi
Ngi ya ku thanda
Ngingasho kanjani ukuthi
Ngi ya xolisa
Kodwa izinto sezi jikile
Ilanga alisa phumi empumalanga
Ngoba uthando selu phumule okwa futhi-futhi
Ngiqinesekile awazanga
Ukuthi uwe kuphela oke
Wangi thanda
Wange themba
Wangi kholelwa
Pho ngingasho kanjani ukuthi
Sekuphelile
Ngasizathu sini?
Akuhlangani!
Ngiphuphe ngilele, sengizo vuka
Ngiphuphe ngawe kepha anga kubona
Bewungasekho endaweni yakho
Lo engim'tholile
Bekungewena Duduzile...

Awu! Ngiyawukhumbula lowanyaka
Ngisha amashushu ngawe
Ngiku gijimisa
Nginesiqiniseko sokuthi
Uyikho konke kimi, uyikho kodwa
Ukulahlekelwa yile mizwa
Kushiye umgodini ongeqiwa
Enhliziyweni yami
Imifula iyageleza
Ebusweni bami
Isuka emehlweni iye ezindlebeni
Ishone phansi emqamelweni
Sekuphelile
Angiyihambi imingcwabo
Angizwani noku valelisa
Siyo phinda sibonane yini
Si thandane yini

Namuhla ngehlo lengqondo
Ngiya bheka maqede ngibalise
Nginga ku fisela kanjani uthando olusha
Uma uthando lungabaza lufa lushiya
Ezweni lamaphupho ngibone isihambi
Sangibuza sathi
Ikuphi namuhla intombi yakho
Angazanga ukuthi ngithini
Ngikufisela intokozo
Intokozo yona enga ngabazi
Engafi
Engashiyi
Ngikufisela intokozo, ngikufisela intokozo

LLM Mbatha

[Zulu, inkondlo] Nginephupho le Afrika

Nginephupho le Afrika
Ubumbano lwe Afrika
IAfrika ezibusayo, eziphilisayo
IAfrika ethi iphethe ubala, ikhizize utho
Maqede ihwebelane yodwa
Ibuye ihwebe namazwe omhlaba
IAfrika ekhululekile
Yamadodana nama dodakazi azazisayo
Yabantu abamele impucuzeko, nenqubekela-phambili
Njengokhokho bethu ema ndulo
AmaGibhithe, amaOlmec (nama Moors) ...
Nginephupho le Afrika
Yamadoda empela, aziqhenyayo, aqotho
AMAQHAWWE
IAfrika-
eyafelwa nguPatrice Lumumba
eyasukunyelwa nguNkwame Nkruma
eyabhadalelwa kanzima nguNelson Mandela
IAfrika ka Haile Selasie I
IAfrika yesimame, indlunkulu ehola imibuso
Yamakhosikazi alwela inkululeko no lwazi
AMAQHAWWEKAZI
oCleopatra, oMaqeda, oNzingha, kanye no-oNyamazana
IAfrika engenakho ukuphalala kwegazi
Ngaphandle kwesizathu, engenayo indlala ne zifo
IAfrika engenabo ondlovu-kayiphikiswa
IAfrika ekhululekile
Ethatha indawo yobuholi
Efundisayo ngaphandle kokugqilaza
Ukuze umhlaba ubone kungenzeka
IAfrika
Engenazo izifika-namthwalo
Ngoba bonke abantwana abesisu sinye
IAfrika
Lapho indlovu idla emthini wezindlovu
Igorila itshakadula umathanda ehlathini
Ne bhubesi liya kazingela mhla lifuna
Ngoba uMdali walidalela khona lokho
IAfrika ka Bhambatha,
ka Sobukwe (Robert) , ka Fanon (Frantz) , ka Biko (Bantu) ,
ka X (Malcolm) , ka Garvey (Marcus) , ka Douglas (Frederick)
Ngingababala ngiqcinekuphi! ? -Amaqhawe! !
Nginephupho le Afrika
Kodwa kuleli ngeke ngiphaphame
Ngoba ngiphupha ngime ngazo zombili
Ngibheke ngawo womabili
Izingalo zami zivulekile, zelulekile
Ukuze zamukele labo abasangana ngalendlela
Yoku phupha kanjena nge Afrika

LLM Mbatha

[Zulu, inkondlo] ngiyakhumbula

uku gijimisana kwami nawe
phela ngangi sangana ngawe
ngazama ukukubonisa
kodwa awuvumanga
ukungipha ithuba
othandweni lwakho
nokho
angililahlanga ithemba
nganqonqoza emunyango
wenhliziyo yakho
ngathi: qo! qo! qo!
kwanhlanga zimuka nomoya
kodwa ke
kwathi ngalanga limbe
ngolwasehlobo usuku
likhipha umkhovu etsheni
ngahlangana ne ntokazi
eyangivulela enhliziyweni yayo
ngaphandle koku nanaza
yamamatheka
kwaba kuhle!
kodwa manje sewu cabanga
ukuthi wenza iphutha
ngakho
ufuna ukunginika
lolu uthando lwakho
Awu! kungani uThando
lungenza ka njena
lungibeka icala
lokuthanda kabili
ukufuna wena! ?
ukube bengiyi Sazi (sase Mpumalanga)
bengizo buza e Nkanyezini
impela kuthanda ukuba nzima
ukulandela inhliziyo
inhliziyo, ehlukenene kabili

LLM Mbatha

[Zulu, inkondlo] Nkomo ka Zulu

Kudala umpongoloza emagqumeni
Ekuhambeni, kwaze
Kwenanela imi fula ne mi fudlana
Abafana bazokulanda ema sisweni
Ubuyel' ekhaya nkomo ka baba
Ubuyel' ekhaya nkomo ka mame
Enile ama dlelo kwa-Nongoma
Iya phuphuma iMfolozi
Amathole aya tshakadula
Umcaba usokhambeni
Amasimi ahlakuliwe
Buya ekhaya, bakulindile
Kuyo kikizwa mhla ubuyayo!
Thula ungakhali, nkomo ka Zulu
Aw! We nkomo ka Zulu!

LLM Mbatha

[Zulu, inkondlo] Nom' izintaba zingisithela

Nom' izintaba zingisithela
Kodw' inhliziy' iyangivezela
Ngelinyilanga z'yodilika!
Ngajikijela ngezobudod' izando
Lwabuy' ucu lumhlophe qwa!
Aw! Ngadla m'na kababa!
Um'baban' uyababa, gha!
Umfan' ochatha ngopelepele
Abanyabafana bechatha ngamacenjana
Umfan' ophuz' uThukela, eMsinga
Waphuz' iMfolozi kwa-Nongoma enhlalankosi
Waphuz' ulwandl' eThekwin' egagasini
Ucelemb' umagawul' ogawul' abezizwe
Wagawul' abamazwe ngamazwe!
Aw! Ubogawul' ubheke we nsizwa!
Uz' ungalu thez' ol'ne nkume...
Okwenhliziyo kwedlul' okomzimba
Enhl' induku!
Uth' engek' abe khona
Uphumalngasikothe intomb' emhlophe
Oqhuma ngohleko kumakhalekhukhwini
Kubesengathi ng'ya wabona
Lamazinywan' aluthotho!
Olwekat' unyawo
Inkosazane igxoba ngama pensela!
Ngapheka ngathulula
Ngakhohlwa ngakhumbula
Ngakhala ngaqandula
Kwaphela iminyaka
Kepha nonyaka, itshe
Lanyakaza, lafudumala, lakhaligazi...

LLM Mbatha

[Zulu, inkondlo] oku nzima kunakho konke

oku nzima kunakho konke uku ngasho lutho
kuwe, kodwa sengiphelelwe ama gama
angiwutholi lowa muzwa waku dala
sewunyamalele okwezinyoni ezi hlabelelayo

ngisenga fona yini ngithi, 'ngikukhumbule'
ngisenga fona yini ngithi, 'ngiyakuthanda'
sisenga gigitheka yini njenga-y-izolo
lapho sewuzothi, "nami ng'yak'thanda"

angeke ngisakwazi ukubambelela
izivunguvungu zasentshonalanga ziza ngamandla
emaphusheni ami ngangi yaye ngi phuphe
ngo thando, kodwa manje sengiya memeza!

angeke ngikwazi ukuphupha e-mini
kumele ngibhekane neqiniso elibabayo
kukhona umfanyana okwenelisayo
i-mini ibabisa okwe qiniso

LLM Mbatha

[Zulu, inkondlo] Sengisho okuningi ngokushesha yini

Sengisho okuningi kakhulu yini
Sengithande kalula ngokushesha yini
Seluhambile uthando, lungaka zalwa
Ilanga angeke libuye lazi
Ngokuqhakaza kwase busuku
Thatha inhliziyo yakho ubalekisisse
Uze ungawuzwa umsindo we nyoni ihlabelela
Umoya kuphela oshaya ezindlebeni zakho
Uze ungayizwa ingilazi iphahlazeka
Okuyuqobo lwenhliziyo yakho
Ungam'thola kanjani enecala ophuphayo
Kulomhlaba lapho uthando luyi nzondo
Ilangabi lalo libandisa okwebala lenyanga
Impilo yonke osukwini olulodwa
Inhliziyo enothando ayizi qgizi qakala
Ngalezo zinto ezifana nesi khathi noma ibanga
Akuna y-izolo
Akuna kusasa
Uthando lunamuhla, njenga manje
Noma ngabe usondele
Noma ngabe uqhelile
Ngemuva kwezi ntaba
Ngaphesheya kwezi lwandle
Noma khona lapha
Ngaphambi kwami
Ngiku nkonkoshele ezingalweni zami
Uthando lulapha
Lulapha njenga manje
Kungani kumele ngicele uxolo
Mina lo, obonileyo maqede wa thanda
Ngithathe inhliziyo yami ngibalekisisse
Nginga wuzwa umsindo we nyoni ihlabelela
Umoya kuphela oshaya ezindlebeni zami
Ngize ngingayizwa ingilazi iphahlazeka
Okuyuqobo lwenhliziyo yami
Lake laxolisa yini iqhwa
Ngoku ncibilika lapho libona ilanga

LLM Mbatha

[Zulu, inkondlo] Ucu

Ngifisa sengathi ungangihlanganisela ucu
Ucu lakwa Zulu,
Olusho ngemibalabala na ngamabalabala
Oluxoxa indaba ejulile
Indaba yemizwa nemicabango
Idayimane, ngelo thando lweqiniso
Omhlophe, ngowehliziyo engenasici
Indilinga, ngoba olwethu kalunasiphetho
Oluhlaza-sasibhakabhaka, ngoba wena ucabanga ngami
Unxantathu, ngoba amazulu aphezulu
Kanjalo nomhlaba nolwandle ngaphansi bayazi
Onsundu, ngoba kuyitshe kunothile futhi okwemvelo
Njengomhlabathi ongaphansi kwezinyawo zami
Noma ungawu shiya umbala ophuzi
Kungani kumele ungithande ngenhliziyo enesikhwele! ?
Ngifisa sengathi ungangihlanganisela ucu
Engiyolugaxa emqaleni
Ukuze zonke izimbali zase maqaleni
Ziyohawuka lapho zingibheka
Ngenxa yayo yonke lemibala egqamile
Ucu lakwa Zulu
Ngobuhlalu bothingo-lwenkosazana
Ubuhlalu base mazweni aqhelileyo
Minake sengiyoba nentokozo emangalisayo
Lapho ngiphendu-phendula ulimi lwakho
Kancane-kancane, futhi ngesikhulu isineke
Ukuze ugcine usukwazi kahle hle
Ukubingelela abazali bami
Ngendlela eyiyona-yona, ngolimi lwesiZulu

LLM Mbatha

[Zulu, Inkondlo] Ukube benginga hlaziya

Ukube benginga hlaziya
Lesiya sithunzi
Nalokhuya kukhanya
Ekuhambeni kwefu
Lapho um'bala ophuzi
Uhlangana no luhlaza
Lapho intaba (ye Tafula)
Ihlangana nesi bhakabhaka
Igama elilodwa lokupenda
Ngemibalabala lokho
Okuthathwa yihlo ngengqondo
Igama elilodwa nje qhwaba
Elinga mumatha ubumbano
Loku Khanya, uku Nyakaza, no Bunjalo
Mina ngingathi "u Buhle"
Uma kungelona "u Thando"

LLM Mbatha

[Zulu, inkondlo] Ukube bewukwazi uku zi bona

Ukube bewukwazi uku zi bona
Ngale ndlela engi ku bona ngayo
Ubuzo qondisisa ukuthi kungani
Ngi sangana kanjena ngawe
Ukube bewukwazi ukubona
Uku sina kwe nhliziyo yami
Lapho ngikubheka, emehlweni
Ubuzo ngi thanda kalula nje
Ngalolu thando nami engiku thanda ngalo
Kodwa ngeke wawa bona amazwe ami
Ngakho ke s'thandwa, thatha amazwi ami
Angiku nkonkoshelanga ngalo ku kuhlwa
Kepha, bese ngike ngakutshela yini?
Ukuthi uba lula kangakanani umzimba wami
Lapho ngi cabanga, ngi khumbula, ngi phupha
Ngiphupha ngawe uhleka- umamatheka
Kumunandi, sisobabili, Nomathemba-

LLM Mbatha

[Zulu, inkondlo] Umkhuleko

Ngiphe inqondo yokuqonda
injongo yamazulu aphezulu
Ngincindise intando yokuthanda
ngothando lokuthanda umakhelwane
Ngivule amehlo okubona
ngibone ezakho ezimhlophe
Thetha amaqiniso okuqinisa
idolo lesizwe sakhithi
Hlanza okwenhliziyo okomoya
nokomzimba kula-magade ahlabayo
Ngithobise ngokuzithoba kokwazi
ngiwuthuli namanzi no-musa
Ngithele ngentethelelo yokuthethelela
ngikhululeke okwenyoni emoyeni
M'Dali wezizwe namazwe
M'Veli owavela kuqala
M'Bumbi wobuntu besintu
ngikhumbuze ngobuntu bomuntu

LLM Mbatha

[Zulu, Inkondlo] Umkhuleko (II)

Ngisahamba kuwo ohlabayo umhlabathi
Ngisawahlafuna wona anhlamvana amabele
Ithemba lami lihleli kuwe M'Veli-Nqangi
Ngoba wena uyiLanga lama langa ami
Uyinyanga ekhanyayo ebusuku bezinsuku zami
Akekho omunye M'Dali, ngiyazi!
Alikho elinye igama, ngaphandle kwelakho
Elakho(igama) engiyo khosela ngiphephele kulo
Wena othi ulapha kanti ulaphaya
Kanti undawo zonke...
Ngoba phela ungaphezu kwakho konke
Uwe owaziyo izinsizi zalomhlaba
Namhla kufika lelo langa lokuwelela
Uwe oyongihola, ungiholele kowakho
Umuzi oncwele, ogcwele uMusa noThando

LLM Mbatha

[Zulu, inkondlo] Umkhuleko III

Thixo Baba u phakeme u lungile
Lungakanani olwakho u thando
Owakho umusa
Ngokudela ozelwe yedwa
Ngenxa yezono zakulomhlaba
Ngenxa yothando lokuthanda isintu
Isintu, ngoba kumele sisindiswe
Esandleni somubi
Uyophelelaphi owami umoya?
Uwe Baba owaziyo!
Liyogcinelaphi elami ithemba?
Uwe Baba owaziyo!
Elami ilanga, ukuphuma nokushona kwalo
Uwe Baba olaziyo...
Ngiyozifihla kuphi mina
Uma ngikhohlwa yiGama lakho
Oh! Ngiyesaba!
Ngiyofinyelela kuphi mina
Uma ngilahla indlela yakho
Oh! Ngiyesaba!
Ngivule amehlo ngikubone
Ngezindlebe ngizwe izwi lakho
Uthando lwakho kuyo inhliziyo
Ngihambe njalo endleleni yakho

LLM Mbatha

[Zulu, inkondlo] Ungabo khathazeka ujule isikhathi eside kakhulu

Ungabo khathazeka ujule isikhathi eside kakhulu
Ubunzima kanye ne zi nhlupheko zadalelwa
Ukwenza uhambo lube nesithunzi
Kuncono uvele uM'dumise, uM'bonge
Phela bekungaba kubi kwedlule lokhu okuyikho
Umuntu ungumphefumulo ophilayo
Akehlukile kuwo uMoya ka Thixo
Futhi uyi ndodana yom'hlabathi
Nje nge zihlahla, kanye ne zilwane zasendle
Isondo liya jika jika
Phezulu emagqumeni namuhla
Phansi emaqeleni kusasa
Kodwa ungu Nkulunkulu emagqumeni
UnguNkulunkulu emaqeleni
UnguMqondisi ehlane
Ngakho uze ungazi khohlwa
Ukuthi wena ungubani, wavela kuphi, wavelelani

LLM Mbatha

[Zulu, inkondlo] Uthando

Uthando lubopha
Ingqondo kanye nomoya wami ngabhande linye
Lwehlukanisa umzimba wami, nenhliziyo yami
Angikwazi nokucwayiza
Angikwazi nokuphefumula
Angikwazi ngisho nokucabanga
Ngaphandle kokuthi ngicabange ngokumamatheka
Okufana nokwakho
Kodwa ilanga limamatheka
Emqondweni wami nje kuphela
Uyoze uwashanele nini amafu angaphezu
Kwekhanda lami
Ukuze ubuso bami bubenyezele ngokubenyezela
Kwegolide
Okufudumele, okwempela
Ilanga lishise esikhunjeni sami
Ilanga lakho, isikhumba sakho

LLM Mbatha

[Zulu, inkondlo] Uthando lubona okuncanyana

Uthando lubona okuncanyana, okusheshayo
Ukuthinteka kwezindebe zomlomo noma okwamehlo
Lwehlukana um'bala no m'bala ibe ifana
Ngobuchule lu khiphe obomvu ko bomvu
Lubuye lukhiphe uku qhakaza eku khanyeni
Luthola imbali ebusweni bakho
Luzwe amakha ezimbali ezinweleni zakho
Lunakisisa ukunyukunyeka
Kwezifaca zoku mamatheka
Lubona inkanyezi ekucwebezeleni kwezinyo
Uthando luqaphelisisa yonke iminyakazwana
Luthatha leyomizwa engekho emqoka kangako
Maqede luyicashise ebhokisaneni eliyimfihlo
Lokugcina umcebo. Ngiyomukhumbula njalo uYuri.

LLM Mbatha

[Zulu, inkondlo] Z'yodilika nini?

Leli banga liyi jele uqobo, ntaba
Z'yodilika nini s'thandwa sami! ?
Ngeswele awokundiza amaphiko
Ngize ngifike lapho ukhona
Induduzo yimicabango yoku khumbula
Ithemba alibulali kush' abadala
Ngokwe nkumbulo:
Aw! ngaze ngafa m'na ka baba!
Ngibuza nakulo iTafula le Afrika, ngithi
Kant' ezikude z'yodilika nini?
Abantu bahlangane
Kuyoba nini ngilala ngiphenduka
Ngiphuthaza ubala olungena m'bala
Lawo mehlwana, izinkanyezana
Unyezi nje emnyameni wobumnyama
Aze aphakama amazulu al'hlazana!
Ngoku mamatheka kolwandle luguba
Lapho uxgoba mntanomuntu uyadadlaza!
Umuntu angafunga athi:
Impela okayihlo lomhlabathi!
Wena ukhona ungekho, ngingakuboni
Ungigcwalisa nginga gcwele, ntaba
Z'yodilika nini sibonane! ?

LLM Mbatha

[Zulu, toyi-toyi] Iphekula (Catch a Fire-Movie)

Hhayi! Hhayi-hhayi! hhayi! Hhayi-hhayi!

Uphunyuka bem'phethe okwenhlanz' emanzini
Bathi bamlanda ngemuva kant' usengaphambili
Bathi bamvimba ngaphambili kant' usengaphezulu
Bathi benyuka naye kant' use nyamalele...
Ongen' esikotheni maqede abeluhlazana njengotshani
Imambana yakwabo! Ebumnyameni ubamnyama njengokuhlwa
Uyindoda emadodeni, uyiqhaw' emaqhaweni. Isotsha.
Uyiphekula kubacindezeli! Hhayi! Hhayi-hhayi!

LLM Mbatha

a man's greatness

a man's greatness is always measured
by the nature and the magnitude
of the challenges he had to overcome
to achieve what ever goal set before him

LLM Mbatha

A poem in mind

A poem in mind
is like a toothless mouth
when the right words
fall into the correct space
the smile becomes
BEAUTIFUL

LLM Mbatha

A Zulu love letter

I wish you could write me a letter
A Zulu love letter
With coded colours and shapes
A diamond, for love that's true
White, for a heart that's pure
A ring, because endless
Blue, because thinking of me
A triangle, because heaven, earth
 and sea below do know
Brown, because solid, rich, and natural
 as the ground under my feet
You can leave out the yellow
Why should you love me jealously! ?

I wish you could write me a letter
That I could wear around my neck
For all the flowers of the meadow
To watch with envy because of all
The colours bright
A Zulu love letter
With rainbow beads from distant lands
That the ancient old would understand
And then I'll have such a great joy
Slowly fine tuning your tongue
That you may be able to properly
Greet my parents in isiZulu

LLM Mbatha

After the storm

Little birds sing clearly now
Hurrah! The storm has passed
The all-inclusive rainbow
Unites the East with the West...
Tiny tree branches move quietly
To the steady blow
Of the soft caressing winds
The grass is smiling
Because each watery blade
Has been kissed by the Sun
Hurrah! To the New Day! ! !

LLM Mbatha

Amasi

Eating amasi reminds me of my childhood
Our round Zulu hut and of my grandmother
I remember how we would walk across the donga
To buy fresh milk from the Boer's farm
Which would later rest three days in the sun
On the rooftop
The UV rays (I suppose) would catalyze
The slow transformation of milk into amasi
I would return home from school one day
To the welcoming smell of phuthu burning
Not because over done, but because of how
It should be, I would know by then that the sun
Has, once again, completed its most crucial role...
Over the soft white gravel now cooled a bit
The thick sour sweet cream would roll slowly
The clockwise motion of the silver spoon
Would guarantee a perfect mix, ready to gobble!
Ndi faca! ndi faca! ndi faca! until I got so full
I had to take a nap
Now it's in this room withdrawn from everything
Comfortless, empty....amasi is maas and
I get them from the mall. But I think of her, our
Round Zulu hut, and of myself as a young boy; when
I smell burnt phutu, or go ndi faca! ndi faca! ndi faca!

LLM Mbatha

An old bicycle

Look! How it leans against the wall!
Picking up dust, dropping down rust
It used to be his legs of steel
To school, to church, to his girl's house
Through shine and rain
One day he came home looking sad
I noticed on his shirt was a stain of mud
Some grass on his shaved head
I was later made to understand
about his little accident
He had earlier hit a rock and fell!
That day, that whole night
The steel frame lay flat on the floor
Out the door
But at 5: 00 am the next morning
It was his noise that woke me up
Making shine the steel
And black the rubber
Ready to hit the road again!
Now it leans, all day, against the wall...

LLM Mbatha

At which hour does the night

At which hour does the night
Stop dreaming about daylight
When does the heart return from
Its foolish wonderings
To let the mind take control
When does love forgive itself
In order to realize that hope is only fools' gold
As the rainbow is their road
Were it not for these bright colored
Pictures we took, or for other peoples' memories
I'd think that, maybe I imagined everything
Love at first sight, no such a thing!
Immaculate beauty, no such a thing!
Was it in mid July?
December rains are falling down
Feeding the ancient streams of the giant Table
Steady winds cut through the bone
Into the marrow with a narrow
Blade of temperature
I picture the snow falling all over the Fuji
36 hours from the foot of the Table
I feel like a mountain, -!
I dreamt of you last night
Playing the games of foolish days
The Hand that made the flowers
Bright, made your face more radiant
And of me—O me! The cheering eye!

LLM Mbatha

Black

If I had a chance to choose
The day before I came to being
I would've asked all mighty JAH
To please, make me black

As black as the night
Because the night is beautiful
As black the sea
Because my thoughts run as deep

As black as the soil
Because my spirit is as rich
As black as the cloud of rain
Because my sweat feeds the earth

Black, brown eyes, woolly hair
Black, big nose, thick lips
That I may swallow the rainbow
And radiate ultra-freedom rays

LLM Mbatha

Broken

I have to get drunk
to fall asleep after
midnight, after
listening to all my
wrongs and all her
rights. The eyes that
used to twinkle in the
night like the stars in
the sky, today burn
with a bloody flame
of hell.
Because her heart
has been broken!

LLM Mbatha

Can't sleep

Somebody else would rather watch TV
Not I!
But why
Am I gazing at the night time sky
Like an ancient Egyptian
Wondering if that brilliant star
By the Milky Way
Could be another sun
With nine planets revolving
One of them, an earth
With inhabitants, an us! ?
Stardust and Spirit made,
Do they make war and love
The same as we
And then again I wonder
Just how many sober nights it took
The star gazing Egyptians
To figure out the 365day calender,
Is there more wisdom to be found
From above in a night like this...

LLM Mbatha

Crisis(darfur)

Won't you help to sing the song of bob marley
If 'tis all we seem to have!
For how long shall they kill our PEOPLE
Genocide after genocide
Whilst everybody stands and looks...
When shall the Children taste the fruit
From the freedom tree watered in its root
By the blood of our people before us
Oh! What a shame on the 'body of nations'!
Jumping from left to right, round and round
(Bedidizela, beshayuzamthilili)
Wasting time, when ever The Burnt Faces
Are at the receiving end!
Let that old black fist of AMANDLA rise up high
Now open to make it STOP, to make it STOP!

LLM Mbatha

'Destiny'

Destiny is not a static position in time or space
It is a dynamic entity, always transforming itself
recreating its form as you get closer to it
such that as soon as it is 'obtained'
it immediately starts pointing away from itself
into the direction new destinies-

LLM Mbatha

Different (without her)

Ever since I've known him
I've also known her
I never saw the two apart
Never saw them without a fight
Two lovers, homeless and old
Begging together
From flat to flat
Down Alma Road, Rosebank
Under the subway, sleeping together
But their favorite spot:
The pavement's grey
Beside my flat
Below my window
An Afrikaans woman
And an English man
He could be 60
She could be younger
The way a man
Would love his woman
He loved her so
Any one could tell
No other beggar could speak to her
Without dust rising high!
But these past few days
He looks different
She's not around
He occupies the spot alone
It's too quiet
The days are slow
The nights longer
He sits on the stairs
Staring into thin air
Pensive, pensive, pensive...
As I pass him by
He recalls my face
He says, hello
Without raising his head...

LLM Mbatha

Don't pray for weather

The groom wants shine on his Great Day
The gardener wants rain for his yellow crop
Don't pray for weather, said the preacher man
Rather you give JAH thanks and praise
And just be, and just let it be
The rain falls when it falls
The sun shines in its day
Everything has its time
To come and go as it should
Like the four seasons, there are no reasons!

LLM Mbatha

Don't worry too deep for too long

Don't worry too deep for too long
Trials and tribulations are there
To make the journey worth taking
Instead you must
Give Him thanks and praise because
It could've been much worse
Man is a living soul
No less than The Breath of YHWH
Equally son of the soil
Just like the trees, and the beasts of the wild
The wheel is forever revolving
Up in the hills today
Down in the valley tomorrow
But He is JAH up in the hills
JAH down in the valley
Guide in the wilderness
So don't you forget
From where you come, and why...

LLM Mbatha

Edit poem

Remember the first poem I sent you
Well, I have made a few changes
I've swapped some lines around
Deleted a number of words
Introduced new ones
The first line has become
The main title
I've since replaced "strength"
With "madness"
It seemed more appropriate
I know you liked the first version
I hope you'll like this one, better...

LLM Mbatha

eSandlwana

Warrior sons of Zulu
of uMnguni, uMalandela, and uPhunga-noMageba
Singing the songs of death
the songs of life
songs for the king
Pressing forward in a jovial dance
of the feet, spear and shield
They were content
to give up their lives for the ancestral dreams
The dream that drove
uMnguni across the rivers of Ethiopia
The dream that brought
uMalandela down into the Gondwana Land
The dream of uShaka Zulu:
one people, one king, one free country
But most of all they did it for the children
and their children's children
Courageous souls
Against all odds
Singing their own songs
indifferent to the thundering sounds
of steel
How can we forget, how best to remember
we for whom they sacrificed
Do we sing the songs they sang
push their philosophy, be courageous?
Do we tell their story over and over again?

LLM Mbatha

Feelings

I'll throw my feelings out the door
I don't need them anymore
I'm heart broken and confused
I told my love but she refused

Loving someone that loves another
Is like climbing a broken ladder
I fell for somebody's somebody
And here I stand with nobody

I'll stroll in the falling rain
To cover the tears on my face
No easy cure to this pain
I need to hide the very trace

What else is there to believe in
Since the 'power of love' is fiction
What on earth deserves to be seen
If true action brings false reaction

LLM Mbatha

Flowers of a Garden

If all the flowers were roses
All of them red
Would they still be flowers
The ones we love to watch
Would honey be as sweet
And universal too
The rainbow is as such
Because of all the colors that complement
Aren't we like flowers of a Garden
You and me
At least through the Eye of Heaven
If we could really be as such
This place would be like Eden...
Each of us blooming
Everyone belonging...

LLM Mbatha

For God so loved Ethiopia

For God so loved Ethiopia
That He hid His Children there
Who fathered the Black Jews
Of Ethiopia, do you know?
And where rests His sacred Ark
Is 'Lord of the Sabbath' not the New Ark
Children, I ask!
Did the Holy Ghost not guide Philip
To explaining Isaiah the Prophet
To the seeking Ethiopian
In the days of Candace the queen
Was the man not baptized
In water, that very day
For God so loved Ethiopia
Colonial powers couldn't conquer her
But can a groom love the shoulder
And despise the leg
Doesn't he love his bride in full
Dear Children, behold!
For God loved Africa in full
Don't be without hope
For He loves Africa still!
...but True Love chastens, -!

LLM Mbatha

for how long

for how long will you allow the rain to fall down
on me
when will you begin to see that I am in love
with you
for too long I have held on to this
colourless nothingness
one year and ten months trying to speak to you
is your heart a heart of stone
open that I may come inside
listen- here I speak:
even the birds have stopped singing the song of love
because they feel pity for my heart's deep suffering
why are you failing to understand! ?
I have seen them coming in and out, taking turns:
your lovers
but none can love you the way I love you
take my hand and let us walk run-away fly
like the birds leaving this world behind
to the world of dreams-come-true
of the rainbow and the rising-sun

LLM Mbatha

For me, -

For me, YHWH is as Real
As the trunk of that tree outside
And as alive as the wind
That blows the leaves into motion
He is the Moonlight in the night-
Although there are hard times
But it is in such times
That I ride on His shoulder
To
Make me stand as tall as the sky-

LLM Mbatha

From The Beginning

From The Beginning
The Seed of Cain
Created havoc on the earth
They just couldn't stop killing...
But JAH had said
To the heavenly folk
Please don't use the sword
To cut down the 'weed'
From the wheat
Lest you cut the wheat
As well-
For in the baby stage
Both are the same
Only time reveals
The true colours
I wonder, what Bob would say
Today
Seeing the 'gods of war'
In an ARMS race
Playing the FIRE games-
What about the HUMAN race?
Is it the seed of the Evil One
Coming to haunt every one-
Seth brought forth peace
Do we need another Noah
...to save the world
Do we need another Christ-
...to be crucified! ?
Or do we need Bob to say
'Oh, it's a disgrace! '

LLM Mbatha

Fuji from the Table

Imagination took man to the moon:
How far is Fuji from the Table?
Given the choice, I'd choose to live
And quickly die, than to be not alive
In the first place, that's why I have
No regrets about falling in love
With a stranger, head over the hills!
Running after you like a headless
Chicken, I feared no danger
In the truth I knew: that time
Which brought you near me
Would quickly steal you away
From me, these thoughts I think
And these daylight dreams
They keep you closer to me
Much closer than the physical
The way love grows, 'tis magical!
"A precious stick is sought
In distant lands", would say
The Zulu of the old
And I do believe in that
You are such a precious stick!
Love has granted me the right
To imagine the impossible
And the courage to believe it
So- tell me, tell me, tell me!
How far is Fuji from the Table?

LLM Mbatha

Hailstone Food

My father loved the rain
Rain with hailstones
Twenty years gone past
When green and blue
Was all I knew
No red of blood
Nor 'supreme' of white
Nor 'beauty' of black
Just green and blue and love
It rained with hailstones
White stones from heaven
My father knelt down
On wet September grass
His head to the sky
Few stones in his hands
My father said
"Thank you Lord for hailstone food! "
I recall less of other days
When it didn't rain
Perhaps such days were spent
Patiently waiting to say
"Thank you Lord for hailstone food! "
Twenty years long wait
Four hearts waiting, breaking
My father waiting, breaking
Waiting! ?
But every body waited for him
I think my father never knew
About the power within him
To make the rain fall
Down once again
And hailstones to scatter
His September lawn
I know now
He was a patient man
Yesterday I dug a hole
And I closed a chapter
With all my childhood's tears
I put my father in the ground
Funny this:
As the body went down
The clouds began collecting
As the sand filled the hole
The rain began to fall
And as we left the site
White stones scattered the land

LLM Mbatha

Have I told too much too soon?

Have I told too much too soon?
Did I fall too easily?
Love is gone before it's born
The sun shall never know
How bright the night can be
Take your heart and run so fast
Can't hear the sound of a bird
Singing
Only the wind in your ears
Blowing
Can't hear the sound of glass
Breaking/
Your own heart beat
Can't blame somebody for dreaming
In this world where Love is hate
Her spark, as cold as the moon's surface
A lifetime in a day
A lover's heart is undisturbed
By such things as time and space
Neither a yesterday nor a tomorrow
Love is now
It doesn't matter how near or far
Behind the great mountains
Beyond the open seas
Or just before my eyes, in my arms
Love is here
Here and now
Why should I apologize
I, that saw and therefore loved
Take my heart and run so fast
Can't hear the sound of a bird
Singing
Only the wind in my ears
Blowing...
Does the snow apologize
For melting in the sun-

LLM Mbatha

Have you ever been so right

Have you ever been so right
In a place and time
Both wrong
Do you sometimes
Stop and wonder
Was it wrong to be right
Was it wrong to be free
Was it wrong to be me
To be true
When it all seemed a lie-

LLM Mbatha

He came up to me

He came up to me
With the biggest smile
Ever...
Wanting to shake my hand
As though him and I
Have been friends forever!
But I couldn't remember:
From where I saw this face? !
Sensing my perplexity
He soon came to my rescue
"...from the Poetry Evening! "
The audience is always 'more'
Always nerve breaking
I know I was shaking
There was only one of me-
I think it's always nice
If somebody remembers
You
For the poetry, of you-

LLM Mbatha

Hear this

Tribalism and xenophobia are apartheid's
Slave mentality of DIVISION
Remember what the Rastaman said:
If your complexion high, high, high
If your complexion low, low, low
You are an African!
Only as ONE shall we win our struggles, old and new...
Hear this-
No food on my table, don't you know:
The struggle continues!
No roof above my head, don't you know:
The struggle continues!
Landless in the land, don't you know:
The struggle continues!
Remember Bantu Education, don't you know:
The struggle continues!
HIV warfare, don't you know:
The struggle continues!
Genocide after genocide, don't you know:
The struggle continues!
And if you trade my culture for a coca cola can:
The struggle continues, I say!

LLM Mbatha

Her Stone (itsh' el' muncu)

For any flu or cold
As any child might catch sometime
My grandmother had a stone
She pulled out of somewhere
Somewhere OUT OF REACH OF CHILDREN
It was as white as amasi
And as bitter as lemon juice
She'd break a corner, mix with water
One table spoon, for chesty coughs
One rinse, for itching gums
One stone, to keep the doctor away
And here my doctor says
He knows nothing of such a stone! ?

LLM Mbatha

Hush.....

Hush, don't say anything yet:
Until she takes her coffee
And gets her smoke
Half an hour to take a breath...
Only then can you say: Good Morning!
Else you'd be mistaken for an enemy
On a rather reserved territory
And be dealt with like wise!

LLM Mbatha

I am sorry Lucky-

`car hijacking' and `cold blooded murder'
are not poetry lines
they do not belong to these pages!
perhaps they'd be more at home
in the so called "sunday times"-
I am sorry for a lack of a better song
to sing the one that inspired SONG
he inspired dance
in our hearts, the hope
I am sorry Lucky, a PLACE like this
did not deserve a one like you-

LLM Mbatha

I asked for a smile

I asked for a smile
But you gave me laughter
I asked for the night
You gave me the moon
I asked for friendship
And you gave me the best
But
I never thought you'd find
The key
To unlock the cold and lonely
Bars of a doubtful heart
Choosing half a loaf
Than to take a chance
Too naïve to understand
How love takes it all
Or takes nothing at all
What can I say
Has it been too long
And far away
Nothing ever changes
I slept, and woke up
Thinking of you...
Is it too late, to be certain?

LLM Mbatha

I do in my doings

I do in my doings
As I believe in my inner-self
I am

Dark son of the soil
I am
Black child of the universe

Who can deny my rights
And claim that every thing is alright
I'm gonna cross these blue seas
With neither fear no doubt
I will caress the lour skies
Either by night or by daylight
I intend to win the fight
Despite the given resistance
I the drum I the voice
I am

Dark son of the soil
I am
Black child of the universe

I never fake it
The image around me is but the mirror image
Of the spirit inside me
The rage in my eyes
Is but the reflection
Of the flame in my veins
Black flame of Africa
My land

I walk tall
I lead my own way
I follow my own mind
I am independent
Nothing can change me
I am that I am

I speak out my own truth
Nobody feeds me what to say
Who can challenge the me in me
Who can try to rearrange
Black is black in any shade
Ah! What a shade I am!

LLM Mbatha

I have a dream of an Africa

I have a dream of an Africa
A united Africa!
Self sustaining and self reliant
Able to produce
Anything out of nothing
And trade within her-self
And with the world at large
A proud Africa
Of a civilizing people
Like our Egyptian, and
Olmec ancestors...
I dream of an Africa that
Patrice Lumumba died for
Kwame Nkrumah stood up for
Nelson Mandela paid dearly for
An Africa of Haile Selassie I
An Africa of GIANTS
Where men are great, proud and dignified
An Africa of Cleopatra, Maqeda, Nzingha and Nyamazana
An Africa without genocide, starvation, or disease
An Africa, without dictators!
A free Africa
Taking on the driver's seat
Teaching without enslaving-
To show the world it's possible!
No refugees because
All the Children belong!
An Africa, a Mother Land
Where an elephant
Feeds from the Elephant Tree
And the gorilla roams free
And the lion goes to hunt
If he wants
Because God loved him to!
An Africa that
Bhambatha (ka Mancinza)
Sobukwe (Robert)
Fanon (Frantz)
Biko (Steve)
X (Malcolm)
Garvey (Marcus)
And Douglas (Frederick)
Would look at and smile about
I have a dream of an Africa
But from this one, I shall not wake
Because I dream standing up
My eyes looking out
My arms open wide
To the ones, mad enough, to dream the same-

LLM Mbatha

I love you

Not for what you
Can do for me but
For what you are to me
I love you
Asking no more of you
No more than you
To love me back
I love you
With a jealous heart
Know what I mean?
I miss you
To kiss you
I feel you
Not seeing you
I hold you
Apart from you
I stretch out my hand
In the middle of the night
Groping for that love
That I know is there
And I touch it
Somewhere in my dreams
Those sweet dreams of you
When away from you
Loving dreams of you
And I smile
Sleeping I smile
When in dreams' land
You smile back at me
Saying back to me
Those three words
I love you
Saying
Akekho ofana nawe, baby!
Love
Love for no reason
For each blessed season
There's no comparison
Our love has no compare
Only I alone know
How well you communicate
Without spitting a word just
Watching touching shaking
Winking tickling chuckling
Woman, you!
Music, you!
Magic, you!
Love is you!
I lie pensive in the night
Making love to the paper
With a pen
Really thinking of it

I really wish you were here
Laying down beside me
Saying things to me
Body language to me
Only I alone know
How well you communicate
Only I alone know
Only I alone
Only I
I, love you

LLM Mbatha

I met Pessoa in Durban...

I met Pessoa in Durban...
Corner Pine and Gardner Street
But that is if
My memory serves me well! ?
Fernando Pessoa
With his famous glasses
And a hat
So The Poet was in town!
But did he bring
Alberto, Ricardo, and
Alvaro along-
To collect salt of the sea
Salt of the Zulu Sea-
For all the tears
...the "tears of Portugal"!

LLM Mbatha

I miss the sweet nothing

I miss the sweet nothing
That used to be you and me

I miss the love
We never made
I miss the you
I never knew
I miss those dreams
We never shared
I miss hoping for
A change of heart

I miss you with
Trust laid to rest
I miss you with
Lust put to test
I miss you with
Duped promises
And passion worn out

I miss you like
A prisoner does freedom
Knowing that his
Is a life sentence

And for all good things
We never did
I really miss you

LLM Mbatha

I remember

I remember how I ran
After you
So crazy about you then
How I tried to make you see
But you never could
Give me a chance
In love with you
Of cause
I never could
Stop knocking
At your heart-door
Banging! Banging!
I never do-
But
One slow summer's day
I met a girl
That gave her heart
Without a struggle
She gave her smile
And it was true!
But now you think
You've been so wrong
And
You want to give
Your love to me! ?
Ah! Why does Love-
behave this way
To have me guilty
Of loving two:
This, wanting you! ?
Were I a Wise Man
I'd find an answer in a Star
It is a bit of a challenge:
Trying to follow a heart
A heart, now, split in two

LLM Mbatha

I tell you

I tell you
Oh! I tell you!
There is NO gun factory in Afrika...
One dollar a day is a luxury for many
I cannot speak about the proper
Health care and educational facilities...
I often but wonder therefore
How every nameless rebel force
Crawling out of some bush
Comes fully furnished
With 'First World' state machinery...
At sixteen
Can't read or write
But
Sure can pull the trigger
The trigger to break all the mirrors
The mirrors, where the enemy hides...

LLM Mbatha

I trust that someday (for Sena)

I trust that someday
You will see why
Know why
Understand why
And therefore
Take me as I come

LLM Mbatha

I wish I could build a kingdom

I wish I could build a kingdom
Solid and rich
With words alone
Soft caressing words
Strong commanding words
Words that do and do not say!
But, oh! My love
You and I know
Sweet words alone are not enough
For if they were!
You too would dream this way-

LLM Mbatha

I wish you joy

How do I tell you it's over
When I once told you forever
How do I explain that
It is more correct
To break your heart now
Because if I wait
It will be too late
How do I say such things
With one mouth
That once kissed and promised
A mouth that whispered
In the night, 'I love you! '
How do I say, I'm sorry
But things have changed
The sun no longer rises
In the east,
That love has found his
Eternal rest.
I bet you didn't know that
Only you ever loved me
Trusted and believed in me
So how do I say, I no longer do
It never rhymes
Where are the reasons?

I had this dream
Before I woke
I dreamt of you
But never saw you
At your place
You weren't around
Strange face I found
Was not yours Dudu
I remember that year
When I ran after you
Convinced you were
My everything, the only thing
Not to feel it anymore
Has left a bottomless pit
In my heart, rivers flow
Across my face, from eye to ear
Down to the pillow
It's over
I don't attend funerals
I don't like goodbyes
Shall I see you, ever, again
Fall for you, over, again....
Tonight with an eye of mind
I watch and weep in pain
How do I say
I wish you love
When love doubts, dies

And then dumps
In my dream
A passer by asked me
About 'my girl'
I couldn't think of what to say
I wish you joy!
Joy, that neither doubts
Dies nor dumps
I wish you joy, I wish you joy

LLM Mbatha

I would be free...

You are a special girl
He is such a lucky boy
If I continue loving you
My heart will break continuously
All these love songs on the radio
Make it even worse for me
But SILENCE is no better option-
I have gobbled up your entire
Dark Chocolate Box
70% of finest cocoa...
It didn't fill me up!
In case there's a change of heart-
I'll be out your heart-door, waiting
If only I could stop day-dreaming
What a JOY it could've been!
If only I could stop loving
I would be free
I would be FREE!

LLM Mbatha

I write about the consciousness

I write about the consciousness
Of the self and the soul-
The names and the works
Of the unscrupulous politicians
Have no place in my space-
Those who think, the struggle is over
And now it's time for CASHing in
Whilst the HUNGRY multitudes
Suffer where ever you go
Such names and works
Have no place in my space-
This ancient this sacred art-
I say, only the HUNGRY know
How-
THE STRUGGLE CONTINUES, every day!
Only the HUNGRY wait
For a new PROMISE, another year-

LLM Mbatha

if i do not luv THEE

if i do not luv THEE
and you do not luv me
then luv is not luv
and we are not we-

LLM Mbatha

If I understood the pain

If I understood the pain
By which the gods weep rain
Would I still be here
Won't I be with them
So, what if I don't know
Would you ask me to go
Why does the root watered
Rot the same
Why does the black cloud
Shield the midday sun
Why does a 14 year old
Sell her soul for bread
Why does a boy child
Sleep by the road side
Why is that grey gentleman
Holding a placard written:
Librarian, jobless, please help!
And why, oh why did a woman die
Giving birth...
So, what if I don't know
Would you ask me to go

LLM Mbatha

if the sky does not fall in love

if the sky does not fall in love
why then does she weep to flood
the planet's liquid and solid faces
why does she wail with such a thunder
and is she not BLIND for half the time
who am I therefore, to resist...
this falling in or out of love
it was all a blur, I admit
until I fell, fell out of Love-

LLM Mbatha

If you could see yourself

If you could see yourself
From where I stand
You would understand
Just why
I feel this way
If you could see
The dance of my heart
When looking at you
You too would fall in love
As easily as I
But you can't see my worlds
Therefore
Please, Darling, take my words!
I didn't hold you tonight
But have I told you how light
My body becomes
When thinking, dreaming-
Dreaming of a smile
Like yours-

LLM Mbatha

If you could stand up

If you could stand up
As tall as Shaka stood up
And face your one million ghosts
Like a true Nguni warrior
Always pressing forward
It was never meant to be easy!
Instead of drinking about it
You could be thinking about it
And allow the mighty Hand of Time
To stitch back the broken skin
If you could do that
You would be a man...

LLM Mbatha

In a taxi to kwa-Nongoma

Taxi, taxi, kwa-Nongoma
Just out of the city
Traffic disbands
ITheku behind us
The land sways backwards
Zulu homes turning clockwise
60,100,120 speed-signs
ISHOWE 28
ULUNDI 121
Too long before we pass
Oom Wissel's curve
Black woman:
Beer case on her head
Two full plastic bags
One on each hand
A baby on her back
And yet,
so calm and in equilibrium...
More road-signs
The wind blowing harder
On a plastic window pane
Cracking windows
Cracking doors
Cracking motion
Of an aging engine
Tires on the road sing
Like waters in a stream
Taxi driver's rhythm
My bums burning
On an iron sit
That slices my body
The upper from the lower
On the soft of my loins
Why am I writing! ?
In the running motion
A scent of burnt fuel
Reaches my intestines
My breakfast!
A five-liter bucket
And my travel bag
Rest on each thigh
I wish to sleep
Like the sleeping baby
Thumb in the mouth
On his mother's lap
Sitting on my right
But such comforts
Are for babies alone
Heart, body, and mind
Indifferent to the kinky turns
And to the loud voices
Of the drunk ten

Seated behind us...
Thanks God it's payday Friday!
I try not to think
About the road shootings
I know my head will rest
On her dark brown breasts
Arms around her loins
Entangled like African locks
Fragrant sweat
Luminous in my room
Mouth on my mouth
Drunk from her wine
Sharing a breath
She'll be mine
And I, hers
Torsos vibrating
To the rhythm of her song
And now sitting in a taxi
Seems to be the smallest
Three-hour sacrifice!

LLM Mbatha

In kwa-Zulu young men do say:

Zal'abantu z'ye bantwini!
They leave men for other men!

No lady would love a wild beast!
Whilst we, young men, are here!
Who spotted it has not hit it
Who hit it has not burnt it
Who burnt it has not eaten it
Who ate it ate the condemned meal
I swear by the rivers and valleys
I swear by the Zulu nation!
Because I too do love this baby!

LLM Mbatha

In the library

And who is that
Disappearing between the
Tiny corridors of books
Religion and philosophy section
Did she just look my way! ?
Do I walk up to her now?
Maybe complement her for her glasses
Or for her beaded earrings
If I should ask her for a name
Would she ask me, why?
Here she comes...
There she goes...
It is now or never!
But first I need to quickly
Pack up my note book,
My calculator,
And my HEART
Put everything safely on the chair
And then accelerate
Towards the blood-pumping Truth

LLM Mbatha

in the poerty world

the sun is not the sun
it's an eye of heaven
a time calculating device
the brightness of a face
and i, my love, am the moon..

LLM Mbatha

In the survival philosophy of UBUNTU

In the survival philosophy of UBUNTU
Written in the conscience of our people
Humankind and Human Kindness do not
Only occupy the same page, line and space
But they are found one within the other
So that
Ignorance of one leads to the ultimate
Annihilation of the other, and vice versa
What better truth than that which is found
In two hands washing each the other,
Or at the end of a heroic battle
Each warrior washing the other's wounds
Winners and losers at the same river bank

LLM Mbatha

in your piece-

i am willing and able...
if the 'you' referred to 'me'
in your piece-
i would fill up your pages
with thoughts secrete and lively
with a feeling so warm
and tender to the soul
two souls at a cross-roads!
the skin of your heart
my light inside those dark
corridors of your dreams
labyrinths of ancient wonder
in which to lose ourselves
forever, in a minute-
you, me, and the sound
a breath, a giggle, a whisper
so sweet in the mind
you could tell me your stories
i could give you memories
if the 'you' referred to 'me'
in your piece-

LLM Mbatha

It gives me pain

It gives me pain
When it comes to mind
Although the anger
Has flown away
And from hate I am freed
By the freedom that fills me up
With weightlessness that lifts me up
Lighter than a feather
I giggle like a baby
Because I have forgiven
And if I could
I would forget as well...

LLM Mbatha

it gives my soul courage

it gives my soul courage
to know
the impossible
is achievable
and i need
neither to be the strongest
nor the wisest
i need
only to be the best i can be

LLM Mbatha

It is not ours

It is not ours my friend
We borrow every minute from God
All we are is His my friend
Including whether we meet again

Such is the way of time
Any time might be a goodbye
Such is the prize we pay
For the joys we make

Hold tight my hand
It is my soul you touch
Don't shed no tear
For me don't tremble in fear

But take my dreams along
And find reasons to try
For what ever must come
It is God's what we become

LLM Mbatha

it makes my day

it makes my day
talking to you
though
on the other
side of the line
i imagine
the smile in your eye
and i start smiling too
sometimes before
i wake
i dream this way
to hear you say:
it's all the same
right there with you!
this wake this dream-
this love we feel...

LLM Mbatha

It starts from the inside

It starts from the inside
Showing up on the outside
Like the root far from glory
Because the sun is for the flowers
A heart is like the soil
Nurturing the root of courage!
If that part be conquered
And the mind takes control
The whole world is possible!

LLM Mbatha

i've got nothing clever

i've got nothing clever
nothing new to say
today
except for that
you were in my head
and i thought that maybe
i should give you
a ring to say: hello!
and how do you do? ?

LLM Mbatha

Kwela (the S.A. Penny Whistle Sound)

A moment in time captured in a simple wind
Of a simple pipe
By a simple folk
I see black boys standing in a corner somewhere
In the middle of Johannesburg
Long before the '76 Uprising
I see them blowing and swinging
Blowing and swinging
The crowd gathering, listening, moved!
Throwing coins in a hat
And then a yellow police vehicle
Would always come too quickly
KWELA, KWELA, KWELA!
Was all that THEY could say
In the city
In the township,
Purple notes
Purple tunes
A purple moment in time
I see happiness and sorrow entwined
Like strands in the loom
I see a people going on because life goes on
KWELA, a moment in song
Your dream has come to life!

LLM Mbatha

Language

Language is to the writer
What a musical instrument is to the musician

There's a wide range from which to select
It doesn't matter which one you choose

Because music is a universal dialect-
Universal, as a pure and simple thought!

LLM Mbatha

Lee-Ann (-like the jazz number)

Although
The sea doesn't always know
Where to stop when the tides are high
Life is still a precious sight
So
Let us go on and fall in love
Strife might stay another day
But
Look, how bright the stars do burn
To make darkness a thing of beauty
Let us fall in love and fly-
Like the birds of the sky
Through sun shine or heavy rain
Me and you meeting in song
And dance because a chance
For making love a million ways-
Let us go on and fall in love! ! !

LLM Mbatha

Let us be like rivers, Love

The Table shall never meet the Fuji again
Let us be like rivers, Love
Great rivers, not mountains!
On their epic journey to grace
The Land of the gods with much needed hope
Where an arid desert is the 'mirror of heaven'
Great rivers run from a Great Lake
Ignorant of borders, boundaries or nationalities
They run
But no matter how long or how apart they grow
Great rivers are sure to become one sometime
At the edge of some distant sea

LLM Mbatha

Let's talk about weather baby!

I had red strawberries and a clear apple
For supper last night, finally spring has
Come, so let's talk about weather baby!
About all the cold things and the hot
Things Nature can be! Are the flowers
Blooming up there? So you know
I love you but you don't want me to
Because you won't love me too
I say we talk about weather baby
Somewhere lukewarm where I hide
Special things, there my love shall rest.
'Tis burning hot down here, too...

LLM Mbatha

looking too good together...

rather send me another picture of Fuji
from a different angle, and the picture
of Tokyo from a moving car, show me
the color of sand by the sea, and that of the
distant sun setting somewhere nowhere...
perhaps also the Eastern view of the
Orion Belt would do...
my first choice, though, would be another
one of you by yourself;
and none of you with your playboy!

LLM Mbatha

Love

Love captivates
My mind and spirit alike
It holds my body and heart apart
I cannot blink
I cannot breathe
I cannot think
Without thinking of a smile like yours
But the sun is only smiling
Inside my head
When shall you take my clouds away?
To gild my face with radiance
So warm
So real
The sun burning on my skin
Your sun-
Your skin-

LLM Mbatha

Love is crazy-

Both Peace and War are made
In the name of making love
Sometimes you receive it
By letting go of it
Sometimes you lose it
When trying to preserve it
Love is crazy-
It breaks you with the Truth
Shakes you with a lie...
You can cry or smile...
But when `tis still GOOD,
Whilst it lasts
It brings out the best in You-

LLM Mbatha

Love Letter

My love is free
It sets you free
To be that which
You desire to be
Though a part of me
Wants to cuff you
Around my wrist
And to cover you
With palms of my hands
Like a ruby or a pearl
To protect you
Hold on to you
And never to lose you
By any chance or plan

I can but cuff you
Around my head
With all my thoughts
And with my heart
Cover you
Yet have you free
To break free
To break my heart
For what is love
What does it mean
If not the freedom
Of a cloud dissolving
Into a blue nothing
Just a feeling! ?

Saying, I love you
And to have you say it
Back to me
Is all the music
I need to hear
The assurance
To lay down my trust

I love you
And miss you
I fear for you
Shed a tear for you
Because nothing must happen
Nothing to upset you

Never in this life
Have I been afraid
For another life
To lose them any how
Though I've had a few
Mainly in my dreams

The old and the new
Nobody like you

If some other time
In false chemistry
This house should go to waste
I'd know still in my heart
I've done the very best
But love,
Love has done the rest...

LLM Mbatha

Love sees the small

Love sees the small, swift gesticulations of the lips or eyes
It divides colors in their faintest shades, accurately
Separating red from red and bright from light
It finds a flower in the face, and smells the flower's scent
From the silk of your hair. It notices the twitch of the smile muscles
And sees a star in the gleam of a tooth. Love captures
All tiny motions, and careless emotions only to hide them
In a secrete treasure box. I will always remember, Yuri.

LLM Mbatha

Lunch break

I feel like a black
lizard
Crawling out of a very
dark place
Into a place
of eternal dawn

LLM Mbatha

Make that fall

For a bird to discover its wings
And its "natural" ability of flying
It first has to make a fall
From the highest possible point in space
Only after several such daring attempts
Is the art of flight acquired
And the sky-confidence obtained
The danger is real
But, so are the rewards
If you cannot make that fall
You will never know you can
You will crawl when in fact you can fly
There is an Invisible Hand
Its strength is the strength of the whiling wind
Its length is the length of all the rivers of the planet
There is an Invisible Hand
That will never let you hit the ground too hard
When you finally decide to make that fall

LLM Mbatha

Maybe I loved you

Maybe I loved you
Because I missed you
Maybe I missed you
Because I never knew you
Maybe
I see tourists and visitors
Because they come only to go
Even before the flowers bloom
Or fade away
To hold is to be held
I love that which I cannot own
I have kissed every brilliant star
I have made love to the moon
I have slow danced with every narrow
Blade of grass in every distant field
Love me from where you are and
We shall never have to part
The stars burn with an immaculate glow
Because they burn from heaven

LLM Mbatha

Mountains(great and small)

What makes such deformations so admirable?
On an otherwise smooth face of the planet
Such beautiful names given
To but towers of rock and sand
Sometimes dressed up in green
Another nature's accident!
Unmovable, and themselves moving nothing
Ah! Some are even labeled, 'holy'!
What inspired the gods, and men the same
To find dignity in such natural misprints
Perhaps 'tis the same thing
That inspired the ancient Egyptians to move
Tons of stone across the desert
Having a mere aim of constructing with mathematical precision
Such unnatural misprints on a rather even desert surface

LLM Mbatha

Mpati's Letter

I am just another boy
From a town
Backward and small
Where love is love
And love is all-
I love with seeing
Like any untutored fool
I believe in things
With colours and shapes
Love is a rainbow
Twisted and curved
What ever is in your head
I will take it like a man
Speak without fear
On our meeting tomorrow
If it hurts-
I will hide my eyes(a while)
But,
Should you want to love me
Another day-
I will love you truly
I will love you naturally
CONTINUOUSLY
Like the ancient river
That floods the sea with salt
And with tears-
From distant lands-

LLM Mbatha

My grandmother (Ndlunkulu!)

I remember how we had phutu
With sugar-water sometimes
And how we had chicken and rice
On Sundays
How she sold umqombothi
And homemade vodka
To get me a pair of Toughies shoes
Because I had said, the Idler pair
Was for the girls!
And went bare feet to school
How she kept the fires burning
In our round Zulu hut
How I always complained about the smoke
Getting into my eyes
But that's where the imbuya, amadumbe and izinkobe
Would toss and turn around
And the scent would torture my hungry stomach
Until supper time
Food would be served in a four corner tray
Eight small hands dipping back and forth
Whilst she smiles, looking on
Full, we'd lie parallel on the sponge
Winter spring summer and fall
Time kept rolling on
We never caught a cold
How she would tell me
I see you!
When I was too afraid to stand outside
And pee at night
Although the stars were always out
And the moon was always white
Yea, half asleep
She'd say: Ng'yak'bona! I see you!
And I'd believe her
As I believe in God today
That He is with my grandmother
Somewhere

LLM Mbatha

My heroes-

My heroes were not chiseled in Hollywood-
They jumped out of the steaming pot of oppression
Like tiny water molecules lifting up the solid lid
Colliding
Resisting
Denouncing half-truths and lies
My heroes are the fearless men who stood up
To defend their very right to Manhood!
Most of my heroes look like me-
All of them attempted the Impossible
Some of them achieved it
But some never lived to see it-
Sometimes in the valleys dim and low
As I tread alone
I remember men that lived, men that live...
The dreamers who dared to dream awake!
And as I carry the flame of my own
I hope I be strong enough, as well, to pass it on...
Just to- Just to- Pass it on.

LLM Mbatha

My wish

I wish that you would see beyond the storm
the brilliant light of a distant star. I wish that
you could rise up from defeat and be the heroine
you ought to be! I wish that you could set free
yourself from the anger that eats you alive! I wish
that for a minute you'd let those tears go dry, so
that you can see what possibilities lie waiting
for someone as beautiful as you! I wish that you
could loosen up your grip on man and find your
strength in God. I wish that you could choose true
happiness over bitterness and that you would
realize: it is all but a matter of choice! Lastly
I wish that after all these twists and turns
we should still remain the best of friends.

LLM Mbatha

Nana

In letting go lies the true test
Of courage and maturity of both
Mind and spirit
It involves
Leaving the known behind
In order to fully embrace the unknown
If achieved in good heart
It leaves a feeling of sweet painfulness
We can be friends!
You've been so good to me
Never spoke a foul word
Never raised your voice high
Always a pillar of strength
There to love and adore
A mind has since the time of creation
Nourished to perfection the art
Of turning beautiful moments
Into unforgettable memories
Only a thought away, as long as I live
It's a blessing
If I can call you sometime
And know I can depend
So walk away, my sweet
You walk away, with grace

LLM Mbatha

New love

Each time I blink
Or turn around
A smile like yours
Is all I see
Are you also
Thinking of me?

LLM Mbatha

nobody (...who is nobody?)

nobody was for the rape
but the women got raped
nobody was for the killings
but the children got shot
nobody was for racism
but racial segregation laws were passed
nobody voted for the Nationalist Party
but they spent 40years in office
nobody remembers a thing
and I must forget...
I think we need another TRC
so that nobody can tell us the truth
the truth, to set nobody free...

LLM Mbatha

Nothing but this

There is a silence in the fall of the night
A kind of silence that longs for nothing
Because content with the stillness
Of the entire planet, such peacefulness
That shuts the ear from the orchestral chirp
Of one million crickets, to hear clearly
Each burning thought, to feel softly
The caressing hands of this black wind!
The geometrical balance of things within
And things without-
Ah! Can a love achieve a HIGH like this?
If it can not, if it has not, then why not,
Alone and on my own, preserve my Peace

LLM Mbatha

Oh, I don't know I just don't know-

Oh, I don't know I just don't know what shall I be

Living without your love

You say: you are leaving, you've had enough and you are leaving

Nomathemba, who are you leaving me with?

Oh, I shall cry my tears dry!

Nomathemba, you are going away!

You say: I am wasting your time? !

You are tired of words and promises

You say: my earth and heaven are in the air

You say: dreams are for the sleeping

But the world is for those that stay awake

Dreams fly away like paper pieces

Your words are stinging, they are piercing

The blind see better than the ones with good vision

The deaf out-dance the ones with better hearing

In this world where the truth tells a lie

My heart can cry its tears dry-

LLM Mbatha

Once upon a time

Fate opened wide her frame to me
Showing off the fullness of her moon
Like a boy and a brand new toy
Oh! What a joy!
Watching with my fingers
Touching with my eyes
Breathing with my heart!
No time to think
Of time
The End of time
My mind kissing her ruby stars...

LLM Mbatha

One Day

One day when everyone
Has shot down everybody
The birds and the beasts
Shall rule the world
And the jumping monkey
Will slowly evolve
To 'flesh intelligence'
The twisted steel
The open graves
And the talking trees
Will tell our story...
If they'd care to notice
They'll learn more about
The consequence
Of violence
Or peace
and perhaps
Therefore, make a choice
Much different to ours...

LLM Mbatha

One day The People will wake up

One day The People will wake up
open up their eyes
look at their dictator and see him
for what he really is: a man!
No more and no less than the one walking
right there across the street
At that point a "new revolution" will be
conceived in the minds
and the hearts of a "powerless" multitude
They will realize the actual magnitude
of their POWER!
They will accept that wrong is wrong
it does not matter who is doing it (Malcolm X)
They will also accept that a struggle without losses
is not a struggle (Steve Biko)
A clearly seeing multitude
an angry, but focused multitude
will rise up to demand their little-freedoms
to demand human-respect and human-dignity
in the land of their birth
Nor lash on the back, nor bullets flying
nor fire, nor rain will stop them
from ridding Afrika of all her dictators
from building up a new Afrika, a new Zimbabwe...

LLM Mbatha

onto the heart-

onto the heart of Jesus
the teardrops fell
but there was no wailing
because no voice
from the children
in the midst of a Genocide-
their teardrops fell
but, by then, they were either
too weary or too hungry
to make a sound-

LLM Mbatha

Over the rubbles...

Over the rubbles of a demolished House
JAH raises up a New One
Bigger, stronger, with doors open wide
To anyone that seeks, loves and fears

LLM Mbatha

Paper money

Paper money: for solid gold
Paper money: for Mother Land
Paper money: who lives or dies?
Paper money: who's getting paid?
Paper money: to sink Zimbabwe...

LLM Mbatha

Pardon me did I say

Pardon me did I say
it's ok to be, 'just friends'?
Ah! Log wood gives birth
to ashes!
That's what the elderly
would say;
A young love never
opted for such!

LLM Mbatha

Perhaps someday in a strange place

Perhaps someday in a strange place
When not looking
Lightning will strike my heart again
And I shall lose my head again
Someday when I see a smile like yours...

LLM Mbatha

Perhaps you are right

Perhaps you are right
I suppose I can never be
The Knight, in shining armor
That your mother told you about-
Not even a Zulu Warrior
To protect you with a shield!
But I can bring a smile
Up on your face
And then we can dance
The world away!
No words to say-
Yet we converse...
I can melt your fears
To nothingness
Gild your tears
With happiness
Like a princess
In a tale
That your mother
Used to tell
Your hand in mine...
Why should you worry
About The End
Near or far
Why should we! ?
Here and now
There's only me, only you
No yesterday
The day is gray
The wine is red
Let us be blind,
My Love
To the motion of the clouds
Deaf, to the music of the leaves

LLM Mbatha

Seeing, they could not perceive

Seeing, they could not perceive
Hearing, they could not understand
Having, they could not recognize
Church, but no salvation
Knowledge, but no belief
When the Book said: You shall not kill,
steal, oppress, cause pain to man, ...
They took both the Book and the guns
Each on its hand, and
They went on 'preaching' and killing around
Stealing in foreign lands...
They did not see
They did not understand
They did not recognize
Therefore
Though 'civilized' they remained savage!

LLM Mbatha

Shall we dance the same again

Shall we dance the same again
To the loud music, or soft one
And to the rainbow lights
On a floor full of invisible
People, only minding their step
Swinging you to my own rhythm
Inhaling the scent of your skin
Shall we dance the same again,
If the dance is all we can achieve...

LLM Mbatha

She says...

She says, she also loves gazing
At the midnight sky...
That's why she took physics,
Though it is a challenging subject
She knows each constellation by name
And she thinks my locks are
Beautiful! And there's nothing
Odd about the way I talk
'Tis just my 'direct' look that
Frightens her sometimes...
She loved the kudu mince
I made for supper last night
She wonders why I have a way
With words! ? I said 'tis just
My heart speaking, not me!
Fine then, she says, but real
People are not supposed to
Fall in love so easily...
She smiles again and walks...

LLM Mbatha

Sister Ayo wants her own!

How do you start to begin?
When the feeling is above
All saying
All wording
But your sister wants her
Own
PIECE
Since,
Well it seems
You write one for every
Other girl, you meet...

LLM Mbatha

Some questions!

Did you really live through all that?
You must've felt or seen it to write it,
Right? I hate attending to questions
About my poems or their content
What difference does it make?
Whether it's a true experience or not
Both the scenery and the sequence of events
Might either be fact
Or just a figment of my imagination
But, poetry is real!
And that's what counts, right?

LLM Mbatha

Sometimes the road chooses its man

Sometimes the road chooses its man
And not the other way round
When 'tis too late to rearrange
You fight from where ever you stand
The Word makes tough the soul
Each forward step
A victorious moment of grace

LLM Mbatha

Sound of the ama-BUTHO

Um em-eh! hhummm!
Um om-oh! hhummm!
Hhummm eeh! hhummm!
Hhummm ooh! hhummm!

NDABEZITHA! Lamb, of the
Zulu Kings! Who could
touch The Lion, The Lion! ?
Here comes the 'impi'!

Um em-eh! hhummm!
Um om-oh! hhummm!
Hhummm eeh! hhummm!
Hhummm ooh! hhummm!

The ones who being right here
Are also over there, being over there
They are everywhere!
Here comes the 'impi'!

Um em-eh! hhummm!
Um om-oh! hhummm!
Hhummm eeh! hhummm!
Hhummm ooh! hhummm!

Come; let us go back to kwa-Dukuza
Where the ama-BUTHO will grab the bull
by the horns, until the bull gives in!
Here comes the 'impi'!

LLM Mbatha

Spirit of the Lion

Sometimes I can hear the voice
Of the Prophet himself
Singing the lines as I lay them
Down on to the paper
I can almost see him
With his hands stretched out
Like he used to do
Overcome by the Living Spirit
Just like David before the Ark
Giving thanks and praise
Taking from the words
Of His Imperial Majesty
All the glory be to JAH, to JAH!

LLM Mbatha

The baby girl, mine!

She is a flower in delicacy, and radiance
When she smiles she reflects the true essence of light

She is the reason for the sun to glide across the midday sky
Her laughter, is more soulful than the sound of jazz

More enticing than Yusef Lateef's or Dexter Gordon's saxophones
Are her careless cries when she demands a little bit of attention

LLM Mbatha

The child dies in me

The child dies in me
I can feel him slip away
I am so afraid to let him go
Afraid, he won't come back
He used to greet each day
With longing in his eyes-
The entire planet, his playground
He met each place with wonder
And every face with a smile
Nothing could conquer him
With his fingertips
He could touch the sky
His naked feet, kissing the soil
In his quiet sleep
He conversed with the gods
He moved to the music of the leaves
And sang along to the song of the birds
If pain crossed his path
He would just let the tears fall
But he would forget so easily
And then a thunderous laughter
would quickly follow...
Forgiveness was in his heart
Because he was innocent
The child dies in me
But If I let him slip away,
Shall a man find his way?

LLM Mbatha

The Devil's Peak

The smoking cloud flying East-West
Covers the apex on the Table's right
Somewhat faster than summer night's fall
And there it stays as though a crown
On some royal head
Heavenly blue behind the Table,
Orchestral tunes of one million crickets...
And the Metro-Rail train passing below
Always manages to ruin the MOMENT

LLM Mbatha

The Flower

This morning you were
Clenched like a fist of Amandla
And now you are as wide open
As the heart of a woman in love
Exposing her deepest secretes
To the mercy of a hand that wants,
but knows not why!
You are beauty
You are magic
Just when I thought you weren't alive,
you moved!
And moved me with surprise of a child
seeing new
Yellow petals open wide
Filling my space with radiance and perfume...
Or have you always been this way, to me?

LLM Mbatha

The hardest thing

The hardest thing is saying nothing
To you, but I am out for words
I cannot find that old feeling
It vanished with the singing birds

Can I call to say, I miss you
Can I call to say, I love you
Can we laugh it out like yesterday
Like when you'd say, I love you too

I cannot hang on any longer
West winds are coming on stronger
Inside my dreams I used to dream
Of a love, but now I scream!

I cannot dream on in daylight
I have to face the fiery truth
Some young boy loves you right
Daylight hurts me like the truth

LLM Mbatha

The Hiragana Table

Side by side SONNET 127
On my wall hanging
Is the Hiragana Table
"a" "i" "u" "e" "o"
"ki", meaning 'tree'
Looks more like a boat sailing
"shi", for "sushi"
Is the only "shhh" sound
In the Table of sounds!
I'm still having trouble
Finding special sounds like
"lu", "nge", "lo"
Perhaps in another Table!

LLM Mbatha

The Khoisan...

The Khoisan was known
To be a hunter
If the lion was king of the jungle,
He was king of the desert
He could make the water rise
Up from the arid sand
The wind knew
How to hold its breath
When the poison arrow
Was at aim
Stone and stick gave him spark
For night time fire
The ground informed him
About the direction, time, and type
Of the beast that had just trod by
The sky
Revealed to him: dates and magnitudes
Of future rains, or draughts
If the lion had caught a thorn
Between his claws
And couldn't bear the pain,
He came to the Khoisan
To negotiate some peace deal-
And when the two kings met
The respect was mutual...and
The Man always knew what to do-
But, once upon a time
The Hunter was hunted!
By those that lacked understanding-
He was smoked out
From cave to cave
Whence he hid
Sought after
In every open terrain
Each male, executed!
Each female, enslaved
Today you can hardly hear the 'clicks'
Of a tongue as ancient as time itself
Only the wind and the land remember
Their perfect keeper
Who knew by name
Each root, rose and creature
And, yet, only killed for supper...

LLM Mbatha

The Minority Cry

1. The Minority Cry

Mixed blood! Same blood!
Mixed blood! Same blood!
When the season was bleak and white
I was just not white enough
Black summer has finally come!
Am I not black enough also?
Perhaps not the correct shade...
Must I not acknowledge or take pride in this
My beginning
The living testimony of colonial rape
Of how a native slave met the oppressor
Yesterday we mourned together
The dearth of Stephen Bantu Biko
His devoted students who knew too well
How Black is but
A State of Mind, and Condition
Never pigmentation, pigMENTALITY!
Was he not better civilized
Than those that brought church and university
Yet never seemed to get it
That every man is a Holy Image
Worthy of dignity and respect!
Even dust has different shades
But one soil
Take-off those coloured, COLOURED glasses
BROTHER, am I not black enough! ?

LLM Mbatha

the Prince of Ethiopia

they named him Lalibela
because 'the bees followed him'-
was he the chosen prince
hand-picked by the Most High
to restore the Christian Faith
in the distant Horn-of-Afrika
where the Children of the Levites
had finally put to rest
a Gift of YHWH to Man...
by which hand or magic force
did the Prince of Ethiopia
crack open the solid rocks
so as to expose
all the Churches of Stone-
someday I will say a prayer
a prayer, to the Most High!
in the mountains of Ethiopia
in the churches of Lalibela

LLM Mbatha

The rainy season

Why does it remind me of you
This sound of rain
This sight of parallel silver lines
On the other side of my window pane
That dancing tree
Those glowing leaves
The scent of freshly watered ground
Why does it all remind me of you
This day, so wet so cold
It never used to rain this way-

LLM Mbatha

the road has been vertical(for Tana)

the road has been vertical-
but you've always been successful!
proud princess of Zulu
of Phunga and Mageba
you have achieved the very best
it's time to sit back and relax
you can be the baby now, just
keep the streams of wisdom flowing
and let us worry about the rest...

LLM Mbatha

the sound of your laughter

we waited for too long
I almost forgot
how it feels like
to be looking at you
the sound of your laughter
the drum of my want
now that I've found you(again)
whilst taking the corner
the ill wind was stronger
but if you say that you love me
you must understand
about the ups and the downs
and the smooth for a while
and that's just how love goes...

LLM Mbatha

the sum of all things-

is it a greater good-
or a greater evil-
the sum of all things
is there a reason why
mankind has to suffer

LLM Mbatha

The very memory of your smile

The very memory of your smile
The thoughts of seeing you again
Make each day worth while
Even as I feel the falling rain

Don't take my dreams away
Tell me, you'll come sometime
My hope lies on what you say
Promise me you'll come sometime

Don't make me wait forever baby
Or till my days of prime are done
I only wanna make you happy
In a world that's yours and mine

What more can I say or write
Give me a chance to make it show
There's a flame that you ignite
It never dies though winds may blow

LLM Mbatha

The Zulu girl

There is a certain
CALMNESS
About
The Zulu girl
It humbles me
Down to the ground
At a loss for words
To say, but that:

LLM Mbatha

There is a man...

There is a man that's so hollow
Nothing fills him up
Though he keeps on going on
His thirst is always rife
So he drinks, drinks and drinks
Drowning
Deep into the sea of emptiness
His loves are many
But he is never happy
He takes the centre stage
And the strangers would cheer
at him
Yet behind his closed door
Tears roll down his face
He works over time, all the time
But his tasks are never done
And my God, I wish so much
That this man wasn't ME

LLM Mbatha

there's a bright patch of green

there's a bright patch of green
on the Table's lap
but I cannot see the sun
from where I sit
only the sun's protruding rays
between the mountain peak
and the shoulder peak
on my balcony patiently watching
for the flying Xhosa girl
who lives down the road
to pass by, look my way, smile,
and wave a hand...
maybe this time I might convince her
to slow down a bit, and tell me a name...

LLM Mbatha

Time of the Son

Time of the Son is close
It has always been close!
No one can stop the tide
Do you get what I say?
But, does it make it silly
Making the noise for peace
In speaking for those who can't
Do I watch with folded arms
Concentrate on my rhymes
And on the chemistry of metals
Ignore what's going on
The slaughter of the sheep
If not by the gun
By starvation, and by disease
The ones without guards to guard the body
This is a strange place in time
The strong kill for peace!
The weak remain on the run
The wise man is drowning in the bottle
The beast is wearing sheep's skin
And I hate what I write...

LLM Mbatha

To an old boat by the Cape's West Coast

Did the saline Atlantic
Devour the skin of your face
And all your flesh to expose
Your silver colored frame
To the oxidizing air
Over the long standing years
Every boat has a name
What did they call you
In your sailing years
Were you victorious
Were you glorious
Across the raging waters
From coast to coast
Did you ferry
The poor, the rich-
The slave, the master...
Did you, one day, sail over
The solid rocks or
Did Time just run out for you

LLM Mbatha

To hope

Is to believe
In that a Greater Authority
Will take care of things
And of you
When there's nothing
Else to see or feel
To tell what future holds
And you've done your best
To take care of the present
It comes from the heart
Always for something
When there's nothing

LLM Mbatha

Were I to describe

Were I to describe
That shade
And that light
In the motion of a cloud
Where the orange
Meets the blue
And the mountain
Meets the sky
If one word could paint
In color
What the eye captures
In mind
Just ONE word
To contain the unity
Of Light, Movement and Form
I would say "Beauty"
If not "Love"-

LLM Mbatha

What is in a language?

Language carries in it the history of a people
The history that begins way before
The conception of that particular language
Every myth, idiom, or story told carries
In it the memories of an ancient infancy
Of a development that comes in stages
As that of a child crawling, walking
Developing a thought, a philosophy
Creating poetry and song
What is in a language is not just relevant
To the people that use it, but it is also relevant
To the entire community of languages
Like the fragments of a great puzzle
Every language has in it the bits and pieces
Lessons to be learned; things significant
To the history of mankind, things significant
To the growth and development of all

LLM Mbatha

what is this I think I feel

what is this I think I feel
in your eye I think I see
in your lips when you speak
what is this I think I feel
in the nearness of you
the BLACK body radiation!
what is this I think I feel
in the scent of your skin
to glaze my eye like drunken!
what is this I think I feel
in your eye I think I see
although your lips refuse say...

LLM Mbatha

What makes life most exciting

What makes life most exciting
is the struggle to achieve something
is the surprise of each day
is the mystery of The Final Day

LLM Mbatha

When this Cloth gets too old

When this Cloth gets too old
I shall take this Flight
Into the Arms of JAH, and
He will forget the Sin
Of the Flesh I am in
Only He shall recall the Good
Of the Soul that is His...
When this Cloth gets too old
And I take this Flight..

LLM Mbatha

When you know...

When you know you are on
The right
Be the first one to apologize
Save the words of wisdom for
The wise
A fool despises them
Let him drown in his ignorance
And pride
Follow your heart
Your wisdom
The wisdom of your God

LLM Mbatha

Will it be asking for too much?

Will it be asking for too much?
If I asked you to love me, dear
And still allow me the space to be me
and to be with myself sometime...

LLM Mbatha

Wisdom

All Wisdom comes from God
I have God on my side;
That makes me a very Wise Man-

LLM Mbatha

Writing

Writing is not about reinventing
The truth, it's about re-looking
And with new eyes reinterpreting
If you put rhythm, it starts to sing
But it's always a little blessing
If the reader can't stop dancing
More so, if he finds a new meaning

LLM Mbatha

You too can love her

She has been babied
She has been raped
She has been named
A hundred names
But she is one
Never many
She is woman
She's gonna find herself
Like how she was
Before they televised her
And turned her into nothing
But flesh on bones
Or skin on bones
Bones!
She's gonna find herself
Not like the picture
In the magazine
But her inner definition
She, the beautiful
From root to fruit
She is the roots woman
She is the fruit woman!
She is so strong
And yet so tender
Used and abused
She stands, grows
The lioness
She is a mother
She is a sister
She is a wife
She is a daughter
Why does she have
To fight for rights
When she possesses the formula
By which succulent leaves
Turn light, air, and water
Into succulent fruit
She doesn't have to worry
Or there must be something wrong
With this picture
Something wrong
With this poem
This poem
It is not her facial reflections
Nor her physical dimensions
Nor how she wears her hair
Nor how she climbs the stairs
It is not her kitchen skills
Else her bedroom skills
The woman's got soul
And she has touched mine
Just close your eyes

Open up your mind
And meet woman
You too can love her

LLM Mbatha

ZULU (-wena we Lembe! ! !)

The bull's forehead would meet
The opponent to his chest
Whilst the two horns encircle
Him from either side
Quickly closing in from behind
Such that as they were in the face
They were also on both sides
As well as all around, - and
As numberless as the inyathi fur!
Too late to up and run...
On surrendering, the opponent
Would then become a Zulu-
Not the slave of the Zulu!
Heroes emerged from either side
Others chose to run in good time
Like Zwangendaba, Soshangase, Mzilikazi...
Establishing great kingdoms where ever they went
Warrior children of Mnguni...
Those that remained with Shaka became part
Of The Great Fighting Machinery
Designed to meet those that would come
Out of the blue, green waters
Of the Indian Ocean
As Shaka had foretold:
Their ears, the colour of the sun
Their hair, the tail of a cow...
It was Cetshwayo, though, who would
Eventually meet them, eat them!
On the Mountain iSandlwana...

LLM Mbatha