

Poetry Series

**Mfonobong Nelson**  
**- poems -**

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## Mfonobong Nelson(2nd may 1990)

i'm a Nigerian who's proud to be ng is a talent cos it runs in the can't separate reading from me or me from reading.I HOPE to write a bestseller someday majoring in christian onment and circumstances inspire me so does music

# Esteem

See her caught in the web of her shame  
Yesterday's memories just won't let her go  
See her shrivelling as a cord strikes  
She feels she stinks because of what she's been through

See her unable to move, unable to go on  
She can't go back to the past either,  
See her so degraded she thinks she's so filthy  
Her past just seems to consume her

Look at her, yesterday's wounds refuse to heal  
Look, the abuses of yesterday torture her mind  
The chains of the past just lock her in  
Making her a prisoner of her own self

Look, behold a grace so pure, so true  
Seeking to free her and heal her wounds  
See, all she's got to do is stand up  
And look beyond yesterday to the future  
Grace says to her, the past is gone  
Grace tells her you can build tomorrow  
All she's got to do is let yesterday go  
Together with the tortures, abuses and agonies

See she can conquer, she can win  
See she can stand up from the ashes of grief  
See she can smile, she can laugh  
Only if she lets yesterday go

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# Finding Hope

Look at her,  
The pain in her heart exceeds the pangs of childbirth  
Her throbbing bleeding heart needs mending and comfort  
She wants direction, a way out of the crossroads  
She wants to see hope engraved on the dark skies

Her children need food and the good things of life  
Their bloated, empty stomachs speaks of hunger and thirst  
Hunger and thirst is emblazoned on their faces  
we'll sure do find the meaning of malnutrition on them

The killings and ravages of war has done no good  
The fight for justice has left many wounded  
The broken and shattered hearts find no comfort  
The casualties are left to rot or live if they like

Her thoughts move past the damages surrounding her  
They look up to one who gave her breath and life  
Her lips mummur a silent prayer to him, her all  
Saying Lord help me see sunshine on these dark skies

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# Grief

The news? tis a shock to everyone  
Yes to everyone who knew the one you loved so very much  
It seems it's all a dream, a lie so big and large  
You try so hard to convince yourself it's not true

Yesterday's memories fill your mind  
Moments of joy, happiness, moments so lovely and great  
You try so hard to hide your tears and pain  
oblivion to you seems to be the best way out

The world must stand still, tis what you think  
The whole world should acknowledge your loss and pain  
It pains you to see that life goes on and on  
The earth still rotates day and revolves by day

The days and years and years have come and gone  
people are moving on, some so slow, some so fast  
No one remembers that you lost one so dear  
Well no one except you

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# Home?

Up the hill mother eagle calls  
Down the valley mother sheep bleats  
In the pens mother hen isn't eating  
Cause a lost chick is making her worried

On the streets a car runs into another  
And the onlookers pull out the victims  
A mother's phone rings and all she hears is that  
Her son is gasping for air

In a home a husband kisses his wife goodbye  
As she goes into town to get some groceries  
The next moment all the cops can say is that  
a stray bullet found it's way into her

Their pains are endless, their hearts are bleeding  
They're wishing this bad dream would end  
They're looking at the door, expecting it to open  
And a voice to say where are you? I'm home!

The portrait on the wall has got no life  
The ones they've loved now lie stiff and cold  
The body in the morgue seems to scream out  
I wish we had one more chance to love.

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