**Poetry Series** 

# YomiPearl Edward - poems -

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### I Shall Not Be Moved

Like brimstones straight From the backroom of hell Life will hurl its missiles I shall STAND, still I shall not be moved With torrential drops From the nimbus cloud I shall be drenched in the rain Of stolen justices and muffled voices I shall STAND, still I shall not be moved I shall STAND, still My voice shall soar, still I shall not be moved The sun shall rise again I shall not be moved My hand shall in halleluya praise I shall not be moved

#### The Beginning Of Our Last Dance

Ayan, o! Skillful riddlesmith On your singing gangan! Drum it loud! Drum it sweet! Courage! Faith! Honesty! Pride! Our weapons To chase out these locusts Feasting on our earth's fortune Let the horn blower Blow out the mucus From his running nose For this night Is the beginning Of a long night... In the morning of my life Mother told me What is worth doing at all Is what we do well This rehearsal Though tearing our muscles Is the chronicle Of our steeping exodus As we march to ominira! Awoko! Songbird on the zuma rock Tinbulate This tinbulation To the man pursued by the masquerade As man faints, so does the heavenly spirit... Let Sango know That we are not helpless Let Ogun know That we are fearless Tonight is the night We stop running

The night of the beginning Of our last dance...

#### The Drunken Master

Shon-Sir! Marooned enforcer of the republic Roasting under the naked sun At the flash of murinaira He licenses night-raiders Mowing blossoming palm fronds Who refuse to wet the ground Keepers of the gate Who let in the goat To devour our isasun The blackangels Guiding jealously Morality and service To the final resting place The drunken master When the nightghouls raid the street He chickens under his wife's wrapper When the coast is clear He emerges, Pouncing on the wandering fowls For constituting public nuisance Foxy bloated dark terror Plaything of the commandos Daymare of the roadriders Playmates of the nightraiders Shon-sir!

## The Republican Pig

Gudu gudu gudu Our treasury balls Swings in his bloated belly When he belches The smell of our rights we smell A bottomless tank Has no limit... The man carrying a huge elephant carcass And at the same time Trying to catch a cricket Hanging in-between his toes! A faltering hunter Wanting to kill the aparp and adan With a single shot from his catapult! The republican pig Sentencing himself To eternal jolliment In the stench of rulership Let him know Ghadafi was not an accident!

#### What Will It Take?

To live And savour happiness What will it take? For the dying to meet his Samaritan What will it take? To rest in blessed assurance That really after toil Come bountiful harvest What will it take? For the man atop Aso To know Kirikiri is not a blighted den But an Aso in reverse What will it take? What will it take To make caged voices sing again? What will it take?