

MOONLIGHT TUNES

For An African Child
Collections of Poems for Children

Compiled By:
Wole Adedoyin

©Society of Young Nigerian Writers

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Dedication

Dedicated to all the Contributors.

First Published 2012

Published by:

Press and Publications Department of SYNW

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Department

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ABOUT THE SOCIETY

SOCIETY OF YOUNG NIGERIAN WRITERS is a literary organization based in Oyo State, Nigeria. It was established to promote literary and creative writings among youths in the country.

SOCIETY OF YOUNG NIGERIAN WRITERS is an international and local affiliate of the Association for the Study of Poets, Playwrights and Novelists lives and works and World of Poets and Literary Society.

Our thematic areas are creative writing, poetry, essay, drama, diary and short story writing. In a bid to effectively address some social issues like politics, corruption, bribery, child hawking, religion malpractices to mention but few.

We use various creative writing means such as poetry, drama, short stories, diary, novels and other forms of literary and creative arts to express our opinions and different views.

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THE ALMAJIRI BOY (A QUR'ANIC DISCIPLE)

Ishaya Birma Elisha

His face a metaphor of hunger

Ramshackled by a lurked fear

His voice dwindles to beg

"Alaaro"

His eyes a personified sight of poverty

His scrawny thin neck

An irony of a vulture.

It's cinematically portraying the prevalence of the wretchedness of poverty in northern Nigeria, pictured by an 'Almajiri Boy' (a Qur'anic school disciple in northern Nigeria).

THE STARS

The eyes of the sky seen amidst the thick darkness
Our children's dream challenged by the evil in the
society.

Companion of the moon, always around her
Our women dream of loving men like you.
Citizen of all countries holding nothing against any
race

The world's dream is to have a relations like yours.
A teacher to many speaking much with a closed
mouth.

The poem tells us about several things we can learn from the stars even though they can't say a word. It reveals its virtues, qualities.

AUNT'S WORD

Bada Yusuf

Aunty tells me night come soon
She said prepare yourselves before noon
As I grow, I grow as future leader
As I grow, my nation hangs on my shoulder
I should work, obedient and read wide
To take my nation to realistic world
I am born to conquer the world

The poem personnel in the poem talk about the word about his aunty and task ahead him at the future. In summary, the poem is all about patriotism.

LULLABY

Otubelu, Chinazom Chukwudi

Sleep, sleep, oh! Baby sleep

The tender stars are about to peep

Close your eyes and take a rest

And feel the warmth of mummy's breast

Dream of the sun and dream of the moon

Behold! Your daddy will be back soon

The poem is strictly a concise lullaby sung by a mother to her little one, who would not sleep until its father returned.

I SEE

I see the birds up in the sky

I wish I was a bird to fly so high

I see the trees floating in the breeze

I wish I was the snow to make them freeze

I see my mummy cooking in the heat

No more wishes, little one, it's time to eat

The poem is wholly centred on a little child's wishes pertaining to the glaring wonders of nature clearly visible to the eyes.

I WONDER

I wonder, I wonder,

I wonder if the ants talk

I wonder if the spiders sleep

I wonder how my arms grow

I wonder wonder.

A GOOD CHILD

Aisha Sidi Yaro

I am a child,

I am a good child,

I obey my parents

And I am kind to my friends.

The poems dwell on variety of issues for children . mainly on how the child's mind work and perceive their immediate environment.

WE WILL SHOUT HAPPY NEW YEAR

Morakinyo Ayodeji

As the earth goes round
Around and around
And the days go by
By and by
This year has come
And it will go again
Then we will shout happy New Year!

This poem discusses how the world goes round to make days and years and reminds us of how Christmas arrives every year.

FAMILY IS WONDERFUL

Morakinyo Ayodeji

Family is wonderful

Family is beautiful

I love my Dad and my Dad loves me

I love my Mom and my Mom loves me

I love my siblings and they love me too

Family is wonderful

Family is beautiful

This poem highlights the emotional relationship existing within members of a family to the little ones.

DEAR LITTLE ONE

Morakinyo Ayodeji

Dear Little One I say to you
Obey your parents and love your neighbours
Respect your teachers and read your books
Pray for your country and tell the truth
That God may bless and keep you always

This poem attempts to instil some moral instructions into the young ones by means of the mentioned values.

LONELY MIND

Tonye Willie-Pepple

Lonely mind,
Look within your soul and you will find,
A million friends in your fair memory land,
Ready to play for your hearts merry with their
melodious band,
And you in a moment will find,
That you are no more christened,
Lonely mind.

ZUNA CUNA MUNA

Ubonabasi Ekpo

The cat meows

ZUNA CUNA MUNA

the duck quacks

ZUNA CUNA MUNA

The dove coos

ZUNA CUNA MUNA

The cock crows

ZUNA CUNA MUNA

The lion roars

ZUNA CUNA MUNA

The frog croaks

ZUNA CUNA MUNA

The dog barks

ZUNA CUNA MUNA

The snake hiss

ANIMAL

Ubonabasi Ekpo

Raising the young chick
like a grown up mother hen
mother lays her eggs
can we eat some eggs

Raising the young calf
like a grown up dairy cow
mother cow gives us milk
can we get some milk

Raising the young bee
like a grown up queen bee
mother bee gives us honey
can we get some honey

Raising the young hog
like a grown up pig
mother pig gives us pork
can we get some pork

GREEN

Ubonabasi Ekpo

GREEN in my home
green is a color
green hat, green scarf
green bag, green chair
green shirt, green trouser
green socks, green ball

GREEN in my farm
green is a color
green grass, green tree
green onion , green tea
green beans, green fruit

GREEN in my environment
green is a color
green car, green roof
green field, green gauge
green light, green house

green tank,green book
green boot,green house gas

Green in the hood
,green,green,green
green on my country's flag
green in my eye
green is a color
also found in rainbow

AFRICA-THE PRIDE OF MY HOME

Ubonabasi Ime Ekpo

Africa Africa Africa

my little country called Africa

Africa is my home

a home of tourist attraction

it has big mountains

Africa is rich with oil

Africa Africa Africa

my little country called Africa

Africa is my home

Africa has 54 countries

Africa ,a place of comfort

Africa is rich with mineral resources

oh my Africa

Africa Africa Africa

Africa has land basins surrounded by water

oh my Africa

a home of pleasure for all

Africa has five zones

Africa builds my dream

Africa improves my comfort

Africa Africa Africa

Africa north Africa south Africa east

Africa west Africa central

oh my Africa

Africa has diverse culture and various languages

I live in Africa

I was born in Africa

I am proud to be an African child

HILL

Ubonabasi Ime Ekpo

Down the hill,down the hill

going down to the hills

going down to catch fun

jumping by the hillside

Down the hill,down the hill

going down to the hills

going to have a picnic party

children loves playing

Down the hills,down the hills

going down to the hills

going to build a mud house

like a knight castle

Down the hills, down the hills

going down to the hills

going down to swim swam

like a whale swimming

'MAN TALK-BIRD TALK'...

Etimbuk Inyang

Gentle taps on my window,
Kpoi! kpoi! The little bird has just arrived.
Utter those words buried in your mouth,
For I have stewarded all through the rainy nights in
wait for thy perching.
In overtness I stand before you with a hungry spirit,
Talk! Bird talk! I entreat.

WORD

Salawu Olajide Michael

A word is an egg

When you break it

It cannot be mended

Better not speak a word

That can spoil your world

Half a verse is wisdom

For a child.

MOTHER

Rasaq Malik Gbolahan

Mother

Mother is our savior

Who makes us happy when we are sad

She cares about us always

She tells us tales at moonlight

She buys toys for us to play with

She washes our school uniform when it's dirty.....

The poem talks on the importance of mother in the home, mother as a consoler and a gift to take care of because she cares about us (children). She is our jewel.

THE STARS

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they can't say a word. It reveals its virtues, qualities.*

AGE

Emmenauel Ugokwe

I love to

I am child,

A happy child to mother and all,

I am growing up with my friends and we are happy,

I want to be a child at least for some years,

To enjoy carefree and innocent childhood.

I want to do the things little boys do,

I want to be loved and hugged by parents.

It is a poem on the beauty and mind of the young, loved and pampered by parents. He would always want to be a child.

My Little Cup

Adenuga (Brown) Oludayo Becky

.....

I have a little cup
with two Akimbo hands
when I throws my cup up
it topples and rolls where it lands
In my cup I take a sup
then play with it in the sands

'My little cup' is a nursery rhyme simply teaching nursery and kindergarten kids, the domestic and entertaining function of a cup.