If they ask me what is beauty

I will tell them it's the audacious brash of your laugh

That burst from the womb that carried my smile

Bright eyed innocence

Magnificence before they could even grasp an essence of the blessing that is

My light

My life

Would cease to exist without the labour of your mother's hard palms

For all the trying and tarrying and carrying the weight of a village's trauma

On her small shoulders

On her bending back

On her kneeling neck

Afraid to offload and face the sky with its deceitful possibilities

But it's possible

Because you made it

And you made me.

And you will make she.

She will only dream to be half the woman you are

I say you are as a pitiful attempt to immortalise you

I adore you

And all the glorious brown skin that reminds me of you

Women like you

Deserve to live on through our dance

Our tears

Our audacious brash of our laugh

Our shiny chattering teeth

Our love

Our beauty

Our failure

Our elegance

Our essence of blessing

Our dreams you were afraid to look up to the wide sky and redeem

They will live through me and her if our Lord and saviour does not return before I behold her beauty

And remind her that some dreams come true through the life of another

Mother.

If she asks me "Mummy what are your dreams?"

I will tell her it's right in front of me

Like if I ask you what are your dreams

You will tell me "O wa niwaju mi"