# In Her Shoes, and other poems

Sheryffat

Presented by

My poetic Side 🧣

## About the author

Araokanmi Sheryffat is hailed from Ibadan in Oyo state, Nigeria, where she attended her secondary school. She proceeded to University of Lagos, Nigeria (The school of first choice and the nation's pride). She graduated excellently with "Second Class Upper Distinction" in English language; B. Ed in English.

#### summary

#### In Her Shoes...

They Called it Love.

WOE TO THEM

THE THREE WORDS. WE PRAY.

#### A FLASHBACK...

EMPTY IT ALL

#### Be Strong

Losing Does Not Suit Me

#### Suicide is a Bomber

POWER

#### Ramadan is Here

The Duo I Know

#### CUT THE CRAP !

The Truth

The Soothing Balm

#### In Her Shoes...

A strong lady she claims, Greater heights she aims, A better life she prays, Though, destiny is a prey.

A prey is destiny though, When life tumbles, she holds, Alas! depression stifles goals, The uncertainties of life no one knows.

At nights, to her Lord, her request she files, And by the day to the globe, like a struggler she tries, In her shoes I am, full of hopes I fly Grant her wishes, oh the Giver of life.

## They Called it Love.

They said, it's LOVE I told them, NOT Even, insecurity is NOT Exclaimed! They asked, why NOT ?

Claimed, in this world they live before ME So, they possess more than ME Smile, the little I live, I see than THEM Experience and pain, I gain than THEM

For its perfect definition, obsession IT IS For nothing but to death, IT LEADS.

# WOE TO THEM

The gossiper who sips nothing but rumor The chatter who plugs with the blog for humor The traducer who holds degree as a slanderer The betrayer who serves nothing but a disappointment The employer who rewards with severity as a compliment The worker who overloads himself with restlessness but not a single day of merriment

The liar who upon falsehood swears by his creator The ungrateful creature who is blind towards the blessings of his creator The privileged who has surplus but can't even be a donor The leader who visions awkwardly because of his selfishness And the led who fails to juxtapose because of his clumsiness This stands, not a curse but a warning if you would be a good listener.

# THE THREE WORDS. WE PRAY.

Should I believe in these words! For the unforgettable aches I got from its swords For its existence is everywhere Alas, in some souls, it's nowhere

In million miles, it's fake In million minds, it's feint Bewildered I am, to take Not a little should my soul be at stake

I term the words, fable Hi, it makes one stable While it's to the Supreme who is able We pray to place us on the right table.

# A FLASHBACK...

I could vividly remember when I was newly admitted with my twin brother to OHS (Olubadan High School). Being a government school, that was my first time seeing such a lot of crowd. OHS was one of the best, recognized and well disciplined government schools in Ibadan, then. The students were best and neatly dressed in their whites and blues. Here, I was, a short; cutely looking, well dressed in my blue skirt and a white top which was complemented by a blue berret cap which I styled to my desire.

However, I noticed this particular male teacher kept staring at me. As we were matching in, he shouted: that fair girl in berret, come back here. Was he referring to me? I asked myself. He continued shouting and yelling: we don't tolerate indiscipline in this school, what nonsense! I was so terrified, asking myself what I had possibly done wrong. Now, standing in front of him, he said: why would you be wearing lipstick to school? That's an act of indiscipline.

Haaa! My lips couldn't agree to come together as I was gravely surprised. I replied, sir, I didn't use any lipstick, at all. But he wouldn't listen nor agree with me. He insisted I used my white top to rub the lipstick off. I cleaned, cleaned and cleaned till my lips cracked. Suddenly, I heard a voice from afar, saying: she doesn't use lipstick, that's her lips. As I turned to see who the speaker was, I realized it was Sheriffdeen, my twin brother. My twinnie said to him: we're from a disciplined and religious home too. The teacher who was angry became sober seeing I had no stain of lipstick on my white top. He was reluctant to feel sorry. He said: really, that's your lips! Mtcheww (in my mind), I didn't even reply him .

Since then, I just disliked him with his subject, Mathematics. Whenever, he saw me throughout my years of secondary school, he would shout "pink lips". Eventually, in JSS3, he summoned me and told me "sorry" for what he did to me years back in JSS1 (because, then, my lips cracked and took some months to heal). We became friends thereafter.

## **EMPTY IT ALL**

Like a log of woods, your problems pile You're aiming high but you hardly fly Competing with your sets, you're feeling shy Empty it all to your Lord and be seeming bright. Wait! Who told you, the mountain top, you can't climb? Give it back to them, it's a creamy lie God showers His blessings in His infinite time.

Sometimes, life seems hard, it pains like a boil Why not empty it all to your Lord, your soul He doesn't toy Empty it all, your puzzles, into the sandy soil With a pure mind, from your Lord, host your unlimited joy Then, the unseeming mountain, you climb like a favoured roy Give it back to them, the shamers; it has come your joy God showers His blessings without a noise.

## Be Strong

Dear tender flower, Be strong Dear beautiful soul, Be strong For the roots that birthed you, Be strong For the stems you birthed, Be strong For the ample blessings of your Lord, Be strong to receive your bloom.

## Losing Does Not Suit Me

I will try, I will fly, because Losing does not suit me I will aim for my fame, of course Losing does not suit me To the world are my words, oh Lord Losing does not suit me It might be hard but I rely on God Losing does not suit me I have been, I have seen; though Losing does not suit me I am a winner not a loser, so Losing does not suit me I will strive till I arrive, note! Losing does not suit me.

#### Suicide is a Bomber

I know of a soul who acts as a friend Suicide is its name, hear this, I said Hi, it's such a life bomber, my friend, beware! To the depressed, as a rescuer it appears Alas!! With its sword, it's a life terminator To yourself is your life, be a good motivator Depression and suicide are friends of collision On a paper, my pen dances, serving you a good impression A word, they say, is enough for the wise only!!! Face your world, I say, with courage and avoid their flimsy sorry All wards with their war; everyone pockets a story Suicide is a bomber; it cuts short your growing glory But with hope plus courage, you arrive at your glowing glory.

#### POWER

They seek power; we need the power A government is nothing without a power With flavoured mouths, they beg for the power Withdrawing favours is their aim once they gain the power Being empowered, they unpower us and leave us with just powder Left with powder, we become weak to question our own users of power Life seems hard, inflation climbs things, here we are With patience we wait, hoping for a life that's nicer And to survive, we struggle; we look fine; just the beauty of powder! We shout, we lament; our voices fade out just like gun powder Who is to be blamed, you or I, who voted them into power?

It was good, our fathers claimed: in their time, they lived in pleasure For a better life, we children pray without any measure God's intervention we seek for the best, so that our children live in affluence with no seizure.

#### Ramadan is Here

Islam is a religion of peace This isn't a fable but a fact of what we see Upon it (Islam) the prophets did preach Salaamun we say to those we greet With love, we bestow upon them Allah's peace Smiles, Wa'alekum salam, they respond with ease Prophet Muhammad (S.A.W) is known as a man of peace Qodqõmatis-Solat, with devotion, we stand on our feet With piousness, we pray to Alah to accept our deeds

Allah's glorious months are twelve but the best is here There comes SHAABAN before it but RAMADAN is rare By Allah's commandments, with piety, we fast with care Thirty days has Ramadan and our sins it pares Whatever bothers our minds, in Ramadan, it clears The commencement óf Ramadan, forgiveness it shares In the middle, on us countless blessings of Allah appear Wrapping up with mercy, Allah ease our affairs Eid-el fitri Mubarak, we feast and cheers.

### The Duo I Know

There goes a beautiful story; Happiness and peace seem to lack nothing Bewildered the world is to enquire The duo bestowed on them what life requires: Patience and contentment hold them firm Determination and success keep their realm Hope and courage shield them from grieving To them, grieving serves nothing but sobbing For peace of mind brings pure happiness Chase peace, then arrives blissfulness Courage holds hope as determination and success never depart The duo I know never stay apart As this make them the shooting stars. Pray, chase peace and feed ecstasy to your heart.

## **CUT THE CRAP !**

Cut the crap! Stop being a deceiver Such an act is gained from deluder You may seem to be a great achiever Just note that it'd never last forever

Knowledge is light, a path to new heights. When teachers lead, take heed and write! While seeking knowledge, your mind waver like a flying kite Kick against indiscipline for you to be bright Cut the crap from laziness, it's never too late to achieve new things of height

Do not harm your soul with solitude The Giver of life needs your gratitude Why poisoning your heart and ruin your hood? Cut the crap! Life is a treasure if your vision is good

Why dress at all if nudity is your goal? You're multi-dressed but none is seen as whole Modesty curbs insanity; in it your beauty shows Cut the crap from shit ! Dress with integrity and you'll be treated as a precious soul.

## The Truth

Everybody has a story A narrative woven with joy and sorrow Every living soul gets a tale A testament to their trials and tomorrow Every challenge is a journey Through the depth of our souls, we must roam And though it's hard to face the day The truth will lead us, come what may.

It's bravely hard to accept the truth To feel the pain that cuts like a youth To confront the echoes of our deepest struggle And let go of the fears that we've held with our muscle But absolutely, everything's gonna be fine For in the darkness, a light will shine And the rewards for patience come to the heart For Allah designs for you the sweetest plans from the start.

# The Soothing Balm

Morning sunshine, warm and bright, Wakes up my senses, feeling right. A tasty scent, that fills the air, Makes me hungry, beyond compare. Soft sizzles, a joyful sound, Fills my heart, with love profound. Flavors mix, a delicious treat, My worries fade, my soul retreats. In this calm space, I find my peace, Love and comfort, my heart does cease. And then, I see, the dish so fine, Plantain and beans, my heart's divine.