

LOVE, LOSS AND LIFE

Ndou Rolivhuwa

Presented by

My poetic Side 



Dedication

To all those who pick up this book,

Thank you for giving my words a chance to resonate with your heart, to comfort your soul, and to inspire your spirit. In sharing my poetry with you, I hope to have created a safe space for you to explore your emotions, to reflect on your journey, and to find solace in the knowledge that you are not alone.

May these words be a reminder that love, loss, and life are universal languages that connect us all, and may they inspire you to embrace your own story, with all its joys and sorrows.

Your support means the world to me, and I am grateful for the opportunity to share my passion with you.

With deepest gratitude and appreciation,

NDOU ROLIVHUWA

Acknowledgement

I begin by expressing my deepest gratitude to God, who inspired me with the ideas and words that fill these pages.

To my loved ones who have supported me on this journey, I offer my heartfelt thanks. My brother Herman and cousin Idani, your dedication and encouragement have been invaluable. From reading early drafts to offering insightful advice on the cover design, your contributions have helped shape this book into its final form. Your hard work and enthusiasm have meant the world to me. Thank you both for your unwavering support.

About the author

Ndou Rolivhuwa: A Rising Scholar

As a driven and ambitious individual, I am committed to making a meaningful impact in the world through education and personal growth. With a strong foundation in academic excellence, I am poised to pursue a successful career in law.

Born on June 22, 2004, I began my academic journey at Mashau Primary School, where I developed a passion for learning. I subsequently attended Matsika Primary School, completing Grade 4, and then transferred to Lambani Primary School, where I graduated from Grade 7 with outstanding results.

I continued my secondary education at Limbedzi Secondary School, demonstrating resilience, determination, and a love for learning. My hard work culminated in a Bachelor's pass in November 2023, a testament to my academic prowess.

Currently, I am pursuing my undergraduate studies in Law at the University of South Africa (UNISA), where I am further developing my critical thinking, analytical, and problem-solving skills. Throughout my educational journey, I have consistently strived for excellence, inspiring my peers and earning the pride of my family and community.

As I embark on the next chapter of my life, I am confident that my academic achievements,

combined with my passion for learning and personal growth, will enable me to make a positive impact in the world.

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In the present

I'm today, yesterday's tomorrow
I'm today, the time you borrow
I'm today, the stars align
Don't pass me by, let love shine

In this moment, I am free
To be me, to live wild and carefree
To chase dreams, to dance in the sun
To make memories, one by one

So let's seize this day, this hour
And make the most of our power
To live, to love, to laugh and play
And make every moment count
, every day."

A Penny's worth of sorrow

A journey by bus, for many, did unfold
Costing just a penny, but lives to hold
Landmarks passed, like memories of the past
But the bus sped on, its fate to forecast

The driver lost control, and lives were lost
Many perished, in a tragic, senseless cost
Only one survived, with scars to bear
A sole witness, to the sorrow that was there
The beginning was the past, now gone
The bus, a coffin, for lives undone
A penny's worth, of sorrow, we now know
A journey's end, in a tragic, fatal blow
May the memories, of those who died that day
Live on in our hearts, and never fade away.

A holiday in shambles

We gathered beneath the sun's warm rays,
Excitement buzzing, joyous days,
A family reunion, long overdue,
A time to reconnect, and make anew.

But fate, it seemed it had other plans,
A cruel twist, a devastating hand,
A car crash, a scream, a shattered dream,
Two precious lives, lost in a heartbeat's scheme.

Our siblings, dear, with futures bright,
Gone in an instant, without a fight,
The holiday cheer, now turned to pain,
A darkness fell, a sorrowful refrain.

The laughter ceased, the smiles faded away,
As grief and shock, took their place to stay,
The sun hid its face, the sky turned gray,
A somber mood, a heart-wrenching day.

We weep and wail, in disbelief and pain,
Our joyous gathering, now a sorrowful refrain,
A holiday, that turned to ashes cold,
A memory, forever to be told.

First they call you crazy, then call you for favors

In the eyes of others, a rebel I stand,
First they call me crazy, with a mocking hand.
They scorn my dreams and visions, unrefined,
But little do they know, I'm one of a kind.

But when success and fortune come my way,
And my name is whispered, in a different sway,
They call me for favors, with a humble tone,
And ask for my help, when their own paths are unknown.

Oh, the irony of life, so sweet and so grand,
First they call you crazy, then call you to hand,
But I'll not forget, the doubts they once sowed,
And I'll choose who to help, with a heart that's allowed.

For true strength lies in forgiveness, and in knowing,
When to lend a hand, and when to let go.

A Heart Defeated

A heart once full, now shattered and worn
A love that failed, a dream that's torn
Memories linger, a bittersweet refrain
A grief so deep, it remains

I'm lost in the haze, of what could have been
A love that slipped away, like sand between
My fingers grasping, but it's gone, it's clear
Leaving me with tears, and a heart that fears

No strength to rise, no will to fight
Just a soul defeated, in the dark of night
The weight of heartache, crushes me to the ground
A love that's lost, a heart that's drowned

In the depths of sorrow, I'm lost and alone
A heart that's broken, a love that's gone

Lost and seeking

In faith's dark night, I search for the way
To rekindle love and trust, now lost from sight
Once fervent, now a flicker, faint and grey
A heart that's weary, worn, and lost its light

The church, a place of solace, now feels strange
A sense of loss, a pain that won't subside
I yearn to escape the devil's endless range
And find the peace, the eternal life I've tried

But still, a glimmer of hope, a spark remains
A desire to restore, to love and trust again
And though my faith may falter, and my heart may stray
God's love remains, a constant, guiding ray

And so, I'll hold on to hope, and pray
For redemption, forgiveness, come what may.

THE SILENT FRIEND

You stand by my side, silent as can be
A constant companion, yet never a word to me
You walk with me, through sunshine and through night
A faithful follower, yet without a spark of light
Your form changes with mine, tall or short, fat or thin
A reflection of my shape, yet never a word within
You're present in the day, but vanish in the night
My shadow, my silent friend, a mysterious sight

The Guava's Golden glow

In guava's golden glow, I climbed with fire
But birds had savored, leaving naught but desire
I descended slow, with sorrow's heavy weight
When hidden wasps, in wrath, did stormy fate

Their stinging fury, I fled with frantic pace
And fell on rocks, with a bruised and tender face
The pebbles sharp, like tiny daggers did pierce
And in my pain, a lesson did take its place

That nature's beauty, with caution must be gained
And hidden dangers, with reverence maintained
Yet still I dream, of guava's sweet embrace
Though wisdom's lessons, now temper my eager pace

Gap Year

Gap year's a trip, lost in the haze
Pajamas, snacks, and video games all day
Questioning life, and the future too
But hey, sweet gaming skills, that's something new!

Adulting's a test, but don't you fret
Pass or fail, you'll get through it, you bet
No comparisons, just your own pace
Hot mess or not, it's your gap year grace

Find your inner cool, or couch potato rule
Moving forward, no permanent fool
Gap year's a journey, not a fog or lock
Embrace the chaos, and rock this gap year block

A mother's love beyond compare

In distant miles, a mother's love does shine,
A constant beacon, guiding me through time.
Eight years apart, yet memories entwined,
Her care and kindness, forever divine.

Her voice, a gentle breeze, that soothes the mind,
A loving comfort, that I've left behind.
Fifty-four kilometers, a gap to find,
Yet her devotion, forever intertwined.

May life's blessings grant her many a year,
To reap the joy, of her children's cheer.
For her selfless heart, a treasure rare,
A mother's love, beyond compare.

And though apart, her love will forever be,
A shining star, that's etched in me.

Heavenly return

On Sundays, we gather to adore
The Lord, our God, with voices raised high
In hymns and songs, our spirits soar
And in His word, our hearts are made to fly

The pastor speaks, with wisdom from above
Guiding us on, with a gentle, loving hand
The gospel's truth, our souls with joy doth move
And in His love, our hearts are made to stand

For we are waiting, for our Savior's return
When we shall rise, and with Him forever yearn
As 1 Thessalonians 4:16-17 does declare
"For the Lord Himself will come down from heaven,
With a loud command, with the voice of the archangel
And with the trumpet call of God, and the dead in Christ shall rise first"

And so we worship, with hearts full of cheer
And praise the Lord, who banishes all fear.

The Transient Allure of Fame

Fame's elusive dream, a fleeting high
A pursuit that consumes, yet often denies
True happiness and peace of mind
Leaving emptiness, a hollow find

Many chase the spotlight's glare
But in its shadow, darkness shares
The pressure mounts, the stress takes toll
And souls are sold for momentary role

They compromise their values, lose their way
And in the end, their true selves slay
For fame's a cruel mistress, cold and gray
Leaving ruin in her wake, day by day

Yet still we covet her, this fleeting fame
Blind to the costs, the endless game
But true greatness lies in character's might
Not in the fame that fades with night.

Love Knows No Borders

Across the seas, across the land
Love's flame burns bright, hand in hand
No distance wide, no ocean deep
Can extinguish the heart's love asleep

Through time zones, cultures, and space
Love's bridge connects the human race
A universal language, pure and true
That speaks directly to the heart, anew

In every corner, love's light shines bright
A beacon guiding through life's plight
No borders can contain its grace
Love's embrace envelops the human race

So let love travel, far and wide
Connecting souls, side by side
For love knows no borders, no bounds
Only the beauty
that it surrounds.

Where Life meets Hope

In every breath, a glimmer shines
A spark of promise, a heart that aligns
With every beat, a chance revives
To rewrite fate, to redefine lives

Where shadows fall, and darkness creeps
Hope whispers secrets, in gentle sweeps
A light flickers, a flame that stays
Guiding us forward, through life's uncertain ways

In every soul, a fire burns bright
A beacon of hope, in the darkest night
For where there is life, there's a chance to thrive
To rise above, to survive and strive

So hold on tight, to hope's steady hand
And never let go, in life's uncertain land
For in its embrace, we find the strength to face
A brighter tomorrow, a new dawn's warm embrace.

A Tribute To Toothless Tales

Oh, toothless wonders, oh so bright,
Your smiles shine forth with gappy light!
You neglected brushing, flossing too,
Now your teeth are gone, oh what to do!

Your sugary snacks and sweet delight,
Led to decay and a toothless night!
You should have taken care, oh so dear,
Now your grin's a gap, and your words are unclear!

But still you smile, with gums so wide,
A toothless grin, that's quite a ride!
You chew with care, and speak with ease,
But your toothless tale, is a hilarious tease!

So here's to you, with your toothless grin,
May your dental woes, be a humorous win!

Flesh of my flesh

Flesh of my flesh, bone of my bone
Connected by blood, by heart, by soul alone
In your eyes, my own reflection shines
A mirrored love, a bond that intertwines

Our hearts beat as one, our pulses entwined
Like branches on a vine, our love is defined
Through every vein, our love will forever flow
A river of devotion, forever to grow

In your touch, I find solace and peace
A sense of belonging, a love that never ceases
Flesh of my flesh, bone of my bone
Together we're one, forever made as one.

THE FLOW OF TIME

Time, a river, flowing free
Moments lost, like grains of sea
Sands slipping through our hands like gold
Memories fade, as years grow old

It races on, with pace so fast
Leaving us with memories of the past
A never-ending journey, it does make
Through the present, to the unknown lake

We try to grasp, but it slips away
Like water through our fingers, day by day
Yet, in its flow, we find our place
A moment's beauty, in time's embrace.

SHADOW IN MY OWN COMMUNITY

Through the heart, they attack,
I visited the doctor, but they said I'm fine.
Yet, I cried out loud with a stabbing pain inside my heart.
I've forgotten what it's like to sleep at night,
Keeping the whole family awake, exhausted and worn out.
They cried from fatigue, but I cried from pain and anguish.
Every heartbeat hurts, a constant reminder of my suffering.
I cried out to the Lord for help, but my voice seems too faint to be heard.

As a high school graduate, I thought it would bring me joy,
But instead, it's a painful reminder of my circumstances.
I regret the knowledge I have, which comes from You, Lord,
But my neighbors don't appreciate it; they seek to harm me.
They perform rituals day and night, intent on taking my life.
Their desire is to kill, and I'm consumed by fear.
I should fear the white man, but it's my own kind that I fear.
Oh, how I wish I were born white, maybe then I wouldn't feel this knife stabbing my heart.
That's life as an African, a never-ending struggle.

Her last words

"I'm tired of sitting, just lay me down"
She whispered soft, with a gentle crown
Her eyes closed slow, like a fading light
As she surrendered to the endless night

With weary breath, she let go the pain
And embraced the peace that came like rain
Her heart, a vessel, worn and true
Finally at rest, with nothing to pursue

In those final words, a story's told
Of a life lived full, with moments to hold
A legacy left, in love and in grace
A memory to cherish, a peaceful place

May her last words be our guiding light
To face our own end, with courage in sight
And when our time comes, may we too find peace
In the stillness, where love and
memories release.

How can I trust you?

You wear a mask of kindness and grace
But behind my back, you show your true face
Spreading secrets, sharing news
A snake in disguise, with a treacherous Muse

You help me out, but everyone knows
Your aid is a ruse, a clever show
You seek to gain, to manipulate and use
Leaving me to wonder, how can I trust you?

Your words are sweet, but your heart is cold
A double agent, with a story to be told
I saw the "sss" in your eyes, the snake's reveal
Now I know the truth, and my trust you'll never steal

How can I trust you, when deception is your game?
When your loyalty is a fleeting flame?
I'll guard my heart, and keep my distance too
For trust is a luxury, I can't afford to renew.

Pain's Dark embrace

A burning fire that once was mild,
Now rages fierce, a constant child,
The oesophagus, a tube of pain,
A heart that races, a soul in vain.

The acid reflux, a symptom true,
But now it's more, a fear anew,
The pain is intense, a weight that's real,
A fear of death, a heart that feels.

The nights are long, the days are cold,
Sleep escapes, a weary soul grows old,
The pain persists, a constant guest,
A reminder that the body's at its worst.

But still we hope, still we pray,
For respite from pain, a brighter day,
When the fire subsides, and peace returns,
And the heart can heal, and love again learns.

Hang on to hope, dear heart, don't let go,
For in the darkness, a light will glow,
And though the pain may seem to win,
Your strength and courage will rise again.

A call for humanity

In the depths of longing, we search for more,
A never-ending quest for wealth and score.
But in the darkness of our endless strife,
We forget the beauty of a simple life.

For true riches lie in the love we share,
In the wisdom gained from our struggles and care.
Through trials and tribulations, we grow,
And in helping others, our souls start to glow.

Let us break free from the chains that bind,
And embrace the beauty of the human kind.
For in our collective strength, we'll find our way,
To a world where love and kindness light the day.

The Final Feast

A plate of memories, served with a side of pain
A meal to savor, before the ultimate refrain
The taste of freedom, lost in every bite
A flavor of farewell, in this, my final night

The aroma of regret, wafts through the air
As I consume the moments, I can no longer share
The bread of sorrow, the wine of despair
My last supper, a meal beyond repair

In this cold cell, I dine alone
Facing the end, with a heart turned to stone
The last meal before eternity
A poignant reminder, of mortality.

Earth's endless hunger

The stomach of the earth never gets full,
Across centuries and millennia, consuming all,
People come and go, like seasons' sway,
But death's dark toll keeps ringing, night and day.

We're buried deep, our bodies lost in earth,
Yet still, we're dying, our legacy in birth,
Memories fade like autumn leaves that fall,
And like the earth, our stories are devoured by all.

Yet in this cycle, there's a hidden grace,
Of lives lived, loved, and lost, now gone to ground,
A legacy of dust, where love and memories resound.

Happiness is a choice

Happiness is a garden we cultivate with care,
A choice to nurture love, and let go of despair.
We plant seeds of joy, and watch them grow,
And harvest the beauty that only love can show.
With every thought, we tend the soil,
And choose happiness, our hearts' sweet toil.

A Mother's Devotion

Your life, a canvas of selfless love,
Revolved around mine, sent from above.
Through trials and tribulations, you stood tall,
A pillar of strength, through it all.

With every sacrifice, you paved my way,
And in your eyes, my future shone bright each day.
Though poverty knocked, your spirit remained free,
You worked tirelessly, to give me destiny.

Memories linger, of grandma's gentle care,
While you toiled, with love, and a mother's prayer.
As a maid, your hands moved with grace,
Fueling my dreams, in a warm, embracing space.

Through your encouragement, I found my voice,
And in your guidance, my heart made a choice.
To become the best version, I could be,
A reflection of your love, for all to see.

So here's my promise, to make it up to you,
To honor your sacrifices, and see them through.
I'll make you proud, and shine with all my might,
And in your love, I'll bask, through day and night.

You are my rock, my guiding star,
Forever in my heart, near and far.
I love you more, with each passing day,
And thank you, Mom, in every way.

Sometimes

Sometimes in the silence, I hear my heart's plea,
A whispered cry for solace, a longing to be free,
From the weight of memories, and the ache of what used to be,
Sometimes, I search for answers, in the shadows of me.

The uncharted path

Dreams we chase, with hearts aflame
Purpose and passion, our guiding aim
But life's unpredictable, twist and turn
Leaving us lost, with hearts that yearn

We toil and struggle, through stormy weather
Faith our anchor, in uncertain tether
Graduation's promise, a future bright
Yet rejection's sting, plunges us into night

Hopelessness creeps, like a thief in the shade
Shame and pain, our hearts have made
But still we rise, through the darkest pain
For in the embers, a spark remains

The universe's mystery, we can't define
Our dreams, not always, in our design
Yet in the journey, we find our way
Through the shadows, a new dawn's ray

Roll with the shame, and the pain we've known
For in the darkness, a light is sown
Guiding us forward, to a new delight.

A love for stone

I think of you day and night
You shine so bright, a beautiful light
In my life, you've shown me the way
But no matter how I care, you don't stay

I've shown you love, but you don't see
My heart beats for you, but you're not me
Come live in my mind, it's a peaceful place
I'll keep you smiling, with a warm and loving space

But it's hard to love you, when you're like a stone
No heart, no mind, no eyes to call your own
You don't feel my love, you don't hear my voice
It's exhausting to love you, with no joyful choice.

The Ones Who Carry

We are the ones
who wake before the sun,
not to chase dreams,
but to build them
brick by brick
for someone else.

We are the hands
that hold the roof steady
while others dance beneath it.
The roots, buried deep,
so the tree can bloom
for our children.

We smile,
but it's a tired smile?
the kind that knows
joy is a luxury
we packed away
for later.

We don't walk roads,
we pave them.
Our feet bleed
so theirs can wear shoes
that never touch the dust.

They call it love.
And it is.
But it is also
a quiet kind of dying?
a slow giving away
of pieces of ourselves

until there's just enough left
to wave goodbye
when they fly.

And when we finally sit
to taste the fruit
of all we planted,
fate sometimes
pulls the chair away.

Still,
we do it.
Not for glory.
Not for thanks.
But because someone had to
break the ice,
cut the path,
light the fire.

We are the ones
who carry the world
so others can run free in it.

And maybe,
just maybe,
that is enough.