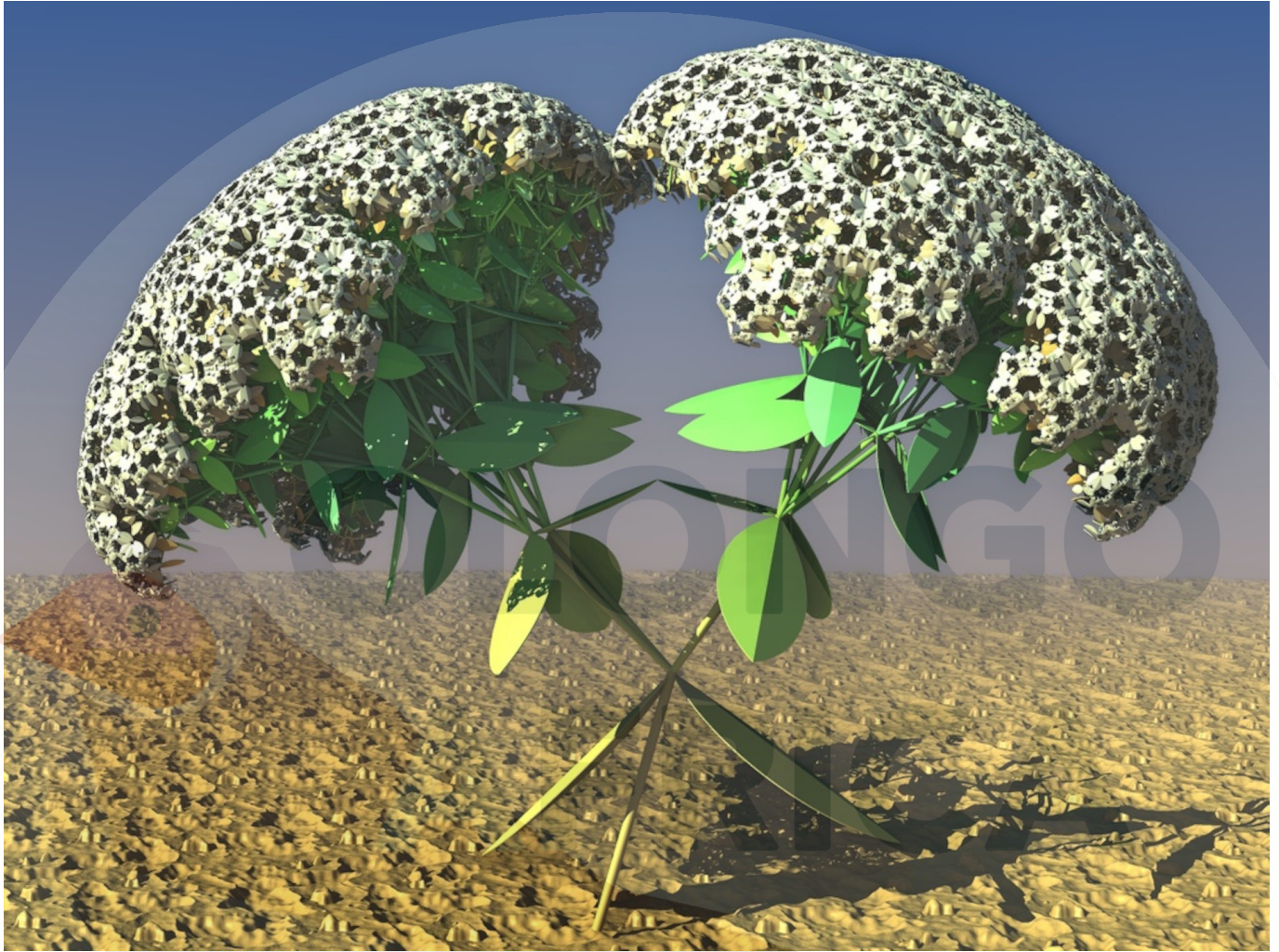


# Bilateral Love Affair

Salawu Olajide  
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I love my country. But America  
Courts me – the man with everything.  
I love my country:  
Dark, Black,  
Gold Yellow teeth & a hunger for me:

My country with its abundant rains  
That loves us to death.

I love my country. But America  
Is big everywhere:  
Texas. McDonald's. Starbucks. America  
Sephora, Walmart, IKEA, The House, White  
America is what every girl should want

I love my country it makes me sick  
& America gets the vaccines first.  
Also the death first. America is always first  
& who does not want the number one man.

My country is on stipends from America &  
My country says we are almost America &  
I love my country. & America  
Is soon my country.

& here's America,  
After luring me, calling the next day  
That he's married & so why not  
Just love my country

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Afua Awo Twumwa is an accountant, a writer and has a keen interest in the performing arts. Her works have appeared or are forthcoming in *Agbowó*, *Tampered Press*, *Kalahari Review*, *AFREADA* and some anthologies. Find her on all socials @awotwumwa.

