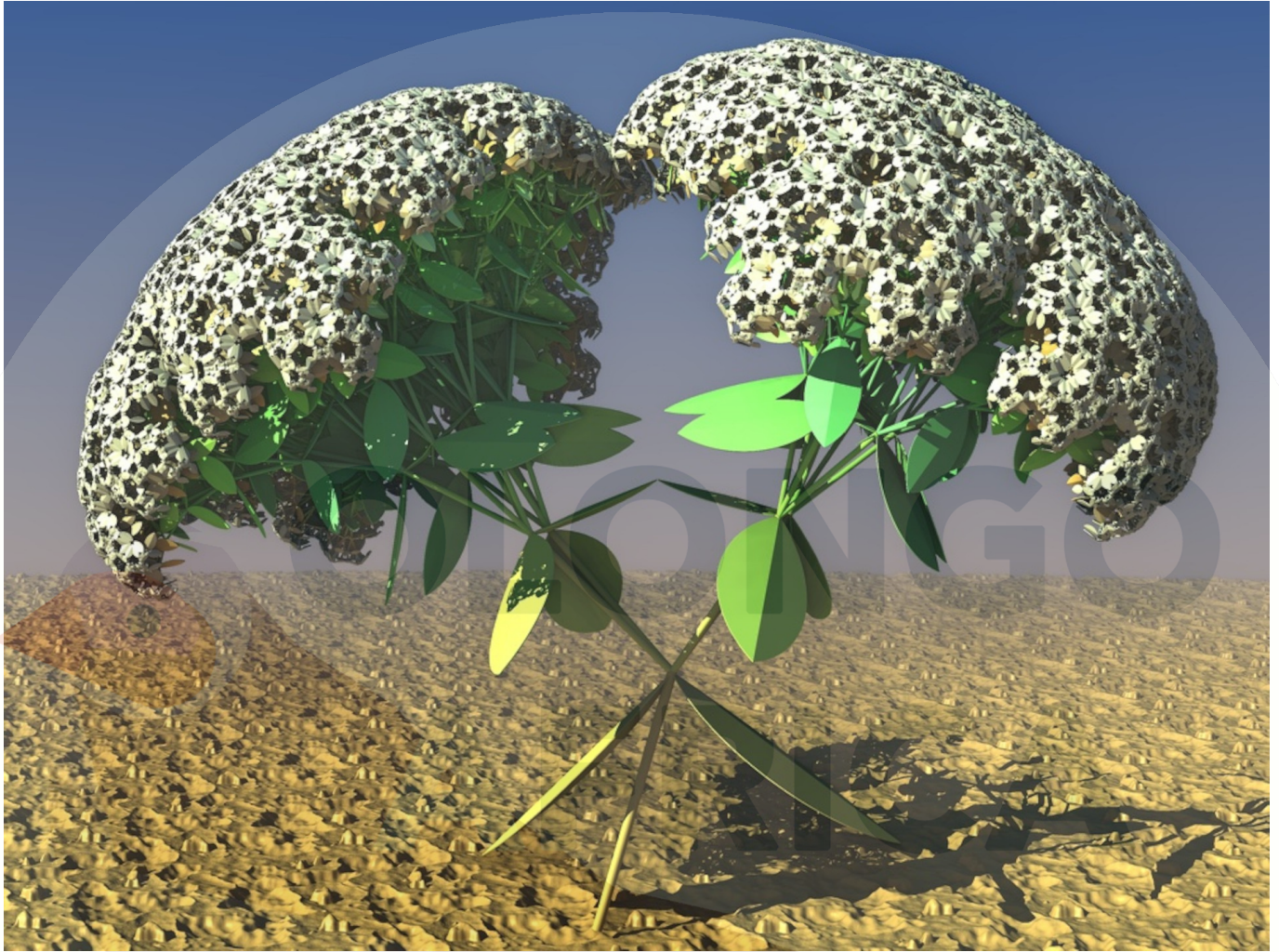


Bilateral Love Affair

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

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.



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