

Home

Kólá Túbòsún

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The girl wearing a rose garland holding tulips
between skinny fingers goes to sleep on a cold con-
crete slab in the city square. It's night & here, we are
calling on hope. But just what is hope when dawn
breaks /& opens up her innocence to this sad world
like the gutting of an arrowed pigeon? what is hope
if not this fickle intuition this powerful longing?
Home in a wartorn country is _____

- a. _____ a museum _____ of dry bones
- b. an orchestra _____ of hollow mouths singing _____ songs of
hunger
- c. ash _____ & coal _____ & fire
- d. _____ a land bearing craters _____ like scars
_____ on a body pregnant with bombs
- e. _____ the song _____ within the belly
_____ of a broken-winged bird

Today a man carried in his mouth the heavy song
of his child's body –an elegy to the lighthouse & I,
holding this image within my mind like an enigma
voice broken pleas to rain as the panacea for this fire

burning men into ash because tomorrow
another child will wake up in the body of a ghost
& this fire will burn another mouth into a dirge.

Timi Sanni is a writer, editor, and Muslim literature advocate. He is the Founding Editor of *Iman Collective*, a Muslim literary magazine. A *NF2W* poetry and fiction scholar. His work has appeared or is forthcoming at *Palette Poetry*, *Down River Road*, *Drinking Gourd Magazine*, *Temz Review*, *X-R-A-Y Literary*, and elsewhere. He is a reader for *CRAFT* and *Liminal Transit Review* and an editor at *Kalopsia Literary*. He is the winner of the *SprinNG Poetry Contest* and *Fitrah Review Short Story Prize 2020*. He was also nominated for the 2020 Young Writers and Creatives Award. Find him on twitter @timisanni.



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