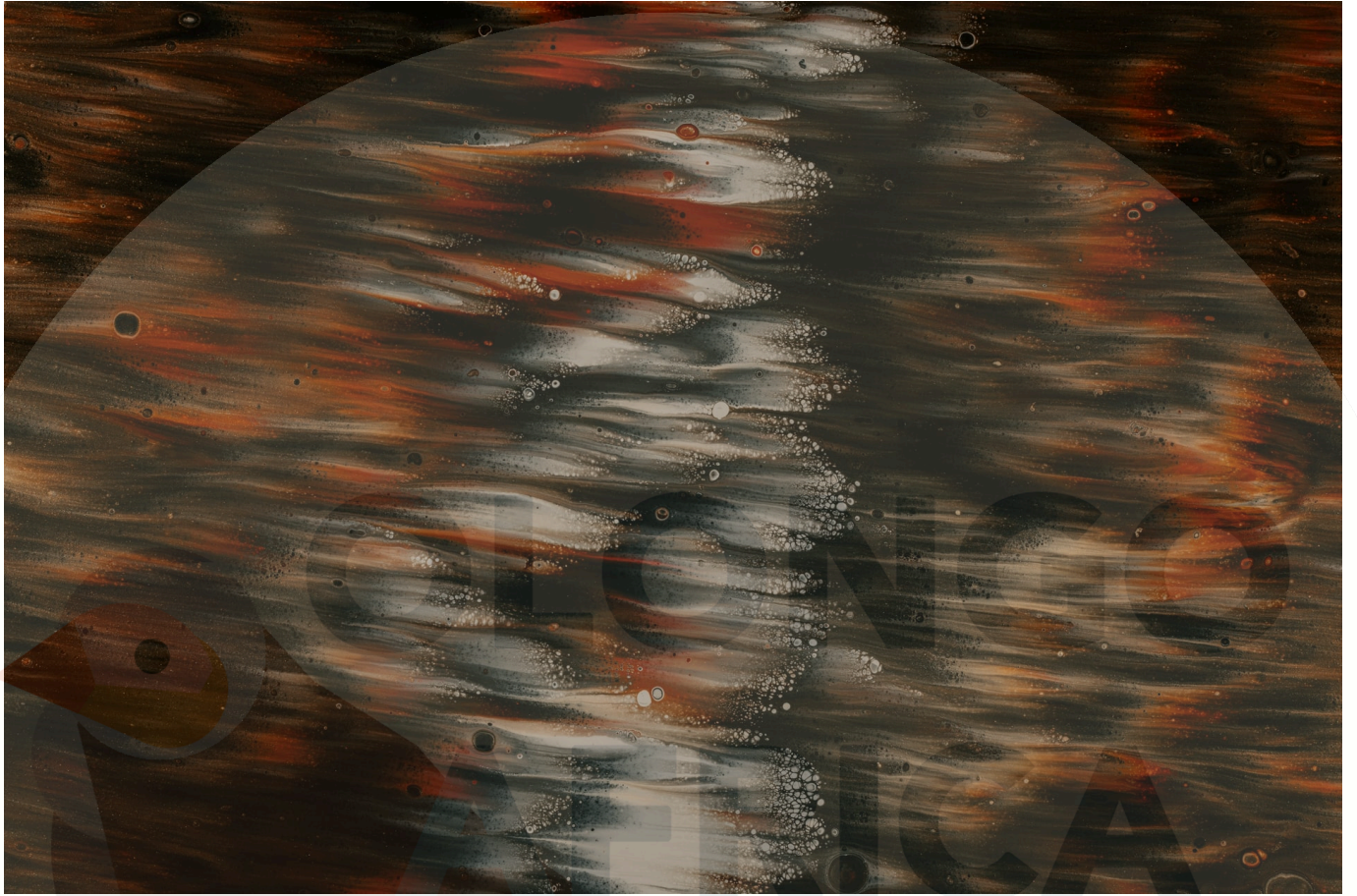


Lazarus

Kólá Túbòsún

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you have cheated death so much
the first time,
you weren't even alive.

the angels are less fortunate than you are
sometimes, i wonder how that makes them feel
but you can't tell someone how to deal with their misfortune

you took too long to form
that is what happens when God calls you Lazarus

the first time I gave you atropine
your body took it like
it was tired of playing dead

this time, I sit to watch
you open your eyes again.
I do not pray for a joke.

Ogunkoya Samuel is a Nigerian poet who lives and writes from Ibadan where he practices

physiotherapy. His poems have been published in *Kalahari Review*, *Five2One Mag*, *Ellis Review*, *Entropy Magazine's Enclave*, *UCity Review* and elsewhere.

