



My Husband Is A Cuckoo And Other Poems of my Youth

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My earliest recollection of writing is in fourth grade at eight years old. Our class teacher was out that day. Instead of being punished for being one of the noise makers as usual, I was punished for "writing a love letter to my desk mate;" for I had written words that flowed to me from somewhere. We had not been taught poetry at the time!

The poems in this collection were written in the early 1980s and in my teens while I was still in Cameroon. I encourage children and young people to write because I believe that their sight and purity are not yet jaded by cynicisms, other isms, ills, bills, and being awakened to the "real" journey of life. As you read these poems put yourself into that young age...and see what I was seeing; then observe from where you are now.

These poems were my observations of life, relationships, love, nature and God.

In the '90s, while in the Unites States, I wrote a lot of poetry and will publish those under another volume. In that volume, it will be interesting to observe the awakening to "real life" that happens as one grows up.

"My Pen" was written when I observed how the leader of the country could change the constitution at will or fire a Minister (equivalent the "Secretary" of a government agency in the U.S. example Secretary of State, or Secretary of Transportation) of a government agency during a lunch break by the stroke of their pen. I saw how I could use my pen in school to move up a grade level. I saw how the pen enabled me to declare my thoughts and how it aided journalists to bring to light the pulse of the society. How the wonderful pen has been to seal million dollar deals, write amazing scripts and put into motion mankind's evolution throughout civilization.

You have probably "signed on the dotted line" at some point...with a Pen. "My Husband is a Cuckoo" came from observing general male female relationships both at the village and city level. Looks like little has changed!

The poem "Cradle of my Birth" is about the natural beauty of my father's village called "Lower Mbot." Kids from other villages laughed at the Lower Mbot village kids and nicknamed the village "Mbot-Farm", their way of looking down on the inhabitants who were mostly farmers. I chose to see the glory of this village and bring that into light, by lauding it and

embracing that nick name, by writing this poem. "Busy Spot" and "The Right Letter in the Wrong Envelope I" are about the cultural awakening I had moving from a purely English background in West Cameroon to the French city of Douala, in East Cameroon. In this city of Douala, I was like a fish out of water, so to speak. Later in the U.S. in the 90s, I wrote another "The Right Letter in the Wrong Envelope II," (to be published in another volume). It is about judging people based on their outward appearance instead of learning to look at their character and values especially in the dating world.

Through "Rebel" I show my observations of man (male and female) being a Great Initiate and initiator; he alone initiates all his transitions be they physical or spiritual. Man at all times has control of his life. This is his gift and destiny!

As exemplified by "I want to Know," as a child and even as a grown up child, I asked a lot of questions; questions that sometimes provoked annoyance and misunderstanding. I asked a lot of questions about God; I

eventually learned to take all my questions to Him directly as He never got annoyed. Soon to be released are some of my musings with Him.

In “She”, “Nina”, and “Fantastic Specimen,” I see “Woman” through the eyes of an artist and men. I went to boarding school at the age of 12. The boarding school used to be a boys school that started admitting girls when my class enrolled. So, there were a small number of girls in the whole school compared to boys. Thus I started observing the rambunctiousness, reactions, language, schemes, and creativity of the young boys in regards to girls especially.

Enjoy my youthful musings!

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