

DUNIA NI MATEMBEZI (*THE WORLD IS WALKING*)

By
NSIMBI

Omulenzi bwakula agoberera bakoja/ enyonyi etazawa eba nkazalujja
Omwana akula mwatu ava mulujja/ Owobuwala agoberera ba Senga
Singa Senga asenga esingo singa sesimye (Ssi Ssi)
Singa Senga asenga esingo singa sesimye

Intro translated

*When a boy grows up he follows the ways of his uncles
Even the humming bird leaves the nest it calls home
When a child grows he must leave the household
A girl wishes she grows up fast so she can follow her aunties
If my auntie moved to Singo I would be the luckiest (I wish I wish)
If my auntie moved to Singo I would be the luckiest*

Dunia ni matembezi (Gotta go gotta go)
Maisha ni utembezi (Gotta go gotta go)
Dunia ni matembezi (Gotta go gotta go)
Maisha ni utembezi (Gotta go gotta go)
Gotta go gotta go gotta go gotta go to come home
Gotta go gotta go gotta go gotta go to come home

Chorus translated

*The world is walking (Gotta go gotta go)
Life is traveling (Gotta go gotta go)
The world is walking (Gotta go gotta go)
Life is traveling (Gotta go gotta go)
Gotta go gotta go gotta go gotta go to come home
Gotta go gotta go gotta go gotta go to come home*

Bajaja baffe batabalanga
Babukabuka nga empungu mu banga
Bwebakomangawo embuzi netubaga
Nebatunyumiza olwo byebalabye eyo mumawanga

Bridge translated

*Our ancestors used to travel far and wide
Like kites they used to fly high in the sky
When they came back we would slaughter goats to roast
And feasted as they told stories of their travels in strange lands*

I'm in need of dusty roads and dusty toes
So I have gone again and travelled far from home
To the moonlit shores of Mombasa in the blue green seas I'll float
Down to the Serengeti through golden fields I'll roam
Don't you know the world is walking
Reach out and take a hand
Yes the beauty's in the talking
Dance to the beat of a distant land

Dunia ni matembezi (Gotta go gotta go)
Maisha ni utembezi (Gotta go gotta go)
Dunia ni matembezi (Gotta go gotta go)
Maisha ni utembezi (Gotta go gotta go)
Gotta go gotta go gotta go gotta go to come home
Gotta go gotta go gotta go gotta go to come home

Okutambula kulaba okuda kunyumya
Embozi mpomya ka chai bugumya
Mutayi otambulako nga okyatemya
Buno obulamu mya emu biri mya
Nze nemutayi kanya twejawo nga kimyanso
Netutula ku ngamia netugenda okulaba dunia
Mwattu ensi temoma busia genda ko eya amayengo jegasiya
Olaba ebirungi obwongo ogaziya
Abakyala abalungi bakuwoya emere nungi olya toyayuya
Mudungu osanga ekyeya Mukibira ensolo ezebyoya
Nemugabana bogoya ensi eyedembe tewetekako kandoya
Omutambuze tasiba zikweya osanga akusoya nawe omusoya

Verse translated

*Travelling is experiencing through the eyes, the journey back is laden with tales
I have sweet stories for you if you could warm a cup of chai for me
My dear friend you should travel while you can still blink
This life could be gone in a flash, faster than one two in a flash
My friend Kanya and I dared to go to the ends at light speed
Riding on camels we went to see the world
The world doesn't end at Busia border
Went to the shores where the waves whisper to the sand
To where we saw great things that expanded our understanding
The lands of beautiful women of will, the food impeccable you cannot starve
Into the deserts we explored the vastness
In the forest we encountered a diversity of hairy animals
Shared bananas with them
In this world of freedom why bind your self to where you were born
A frequent traveller replenishes fountains of wisdom
It is through our exploration that we can find the answers to new questions*

Don't you know the world is walking?
Reach out and take a hand
Yes the beauty's in the talking
Dance to the beat of a distant land

Dunia ni matembezi (bajaja baffe batabalanga)
Maisha ni utembezi (babukabuka nga empungu mu banga)
Dunia ni matembezi (bwebakomangawo embuzi netubaga)
Maisha ni utembezi (nebatunyumiza olwo byebalabye eyo mumawanga)
Dunia ni matembezi (bajaja baffe batabalanga)
Maisha ni utembezi (babukabuka nga empungu mu banga)

Outro translated

The world is walking (Our ancestors used to travel far and wide)

Life is traveling (Like kites they used to fly high in the sky)

The world is walking (When they came back we would slaughter goats to roast)

Life is traveling (And feasted as they told stories of their travels in strange lands)

The world is walking (Our ancestors used to travel far and wide)

Life is traveling (Like kites they used to fly high in the sky)

Gotta go gotta go gotta go gotta go to come home
Gotta go gotta go gotta go gotta go to come home
Gotta go gotta go gotta go gotta go to come home
Gotta go gotta go gotta go gotta go to come home

LEO NI LEO
By
NSIMBI

Golokoka Golokoka Golokoka Golokoka Golokoka ha
Golokoka Golokoka Golokoka Golokoka Golokoka ha
Golokoka Golokoka Golokoka Golokoka Golokoka ha
Golokoka Golokoka Golokoka Golokoka Golokoka

Intro translation

*Wake up wake up wake up wake up wake up ha
Wake up wake up wake up wake up wake up ha
Wake up wake up wake up wake up wake up ha
Wake up wake up wake up wake up wake up*

Leo ni leo
Leo ni siku ya furaha
Leo ni leo
Leo ni siku ya furaha

Chorus translation

*Today is today
Today is a joyful day
Today is today
Today is a joyful day*

Mwasuze mutya abeyo mwe mwasuzemutya
Abalangira mwasuze mutya bambeja mwasuzemutya
Abolugave mwasuze mutya abengabi mwasuze mutya
abanyoro mwasuze mutya ndese kasuze katya

Bridge translation

*How was your night my beloved over there how was your night
How did the princess sleep last night how did the princesses sleep last night
The Lugave clan how was your night
Ngabi clan how was your night
The Banyoro people how was your night
I came this morning with gifts and glad tidings*

Oh I have been wandering, trying to find some peace of mind
Carrying the weight of dreams, yesterday's behind
And I can ride a cloud, yes until I reach the light
Feel the sun hot on my face, my heart beating inside

Leo ni leo
Leo ni siku ya furaha
Leo ni leo
Leo ni siku ya furaha

Ondaba ntevunya face emwenya temuli vunya
Ebizibu byempisemu lufukunya natukako nokuyita obukunya
Yenga kiki ekintawanya kumbe sanyu lye nonya
Nawuga mpita mu gonya akasana ne kaka enkuba ne tonya
Ha kati empanga zetumanya ku kyalo ndi musajja walinya
Nawasa ne nalinya nava mulugabire nengula akalinya
Sikakalabanda mpulira esanyu lili elyomunda
Kamu kamu gwemuganda kamosogola ne kagusunda
Katulye kwezo semanda zeyasonda twejukanyemu
Bwetwayita awafunda nga tonanya ku lwendo tambula nga omuganda
Tambula nga omuganda akaliba akendo okalabira kumukonda

Verse translation

*You watch me moving with the flow, face with a smile no wrinkles
I have been through a myriad of struggles, some left me feeling alone and naked
Looking back at all my suffering it was joy I was on the quest to find
I swam through a pit of crocodiles, the sun raged on me and the rain beat on me
But look at me now at a feast of many cocks, I am a man with a name and reputation
I married the finest of women, I have bought shoes for my weary bare feet
Soft sole not the wooden type
I feel the love and joy from within, it took growth and patience
As the saying goes, one plus one makes a bundle
Call the brewer and the server, let's drink to life and good health
From the wealth Ssemanda saved
Let's remind our selves of how we survived the thick and narrow
But before we take a sip off the gourd ladle
Lets pay respect to the ancestors like an authentic Muganda
Like an authentic Muganda you can tell what is going to be great by the good way it
starts*

Leo ni leo
Leo ni siku ya furaha
Leo ni leo
Leo ni siku ya furaha

Mwasuze mutya abeyo mwe mwasuzemutya
Abalangira mwasuze mutya bambeja mwasuzemutya
Abomusu mwasuze mutya abemamba mwasuze mutya
Abengo mwasuze mutya ndese kasuze katya
Abe mbogo mwasuze mutya ngonge mwe kilikitya
Abendiga mwasuzemutya akasimba mwedira ki?

When there's nothing left to lose
And only joy to find
When invincible is how I feel
And I've opened up my mind
Hey!

Leo ni leo
Leo ni siku ya furaha
Leo ni leo
Leo ni siku ya furaha

Golokoka Golokoka Golokoka Golokoka Golokoka
Golokoka Golokoka Golokoka Golokoka Golokoka
Golokoka Golokoka Golokoka Golokoka Golokoka
Golokoka Golokoka Golokoka Golokoka Golokoka

MUJJE (*COME ALL/COME TOGETHER*)

By
NSIMBI

Hey

Mujje
Mujje
Mujje

Intro translation

Come all
Come all
Come all

Mujje mujje mujje
Mujje mujje mujje
Mujje mujje mujje

Chorus translation

Come all come all come all
Come all come all come all
Come all come all come all

Gubumbujje/*Let our fire blaze*

Raha ya dunia ni amani na upendo
Happiness on earth is peace and love
Raha ya dunia ni amani na upendo
Happiness on earth is peace and love

Refrain translation

Happiness on earth is peace and love
Happiness on earth is peace and love
Happiness on earth is peace and love
Happiness on earth is peace and love

Entebenkera etemagana bana towakana tabagana ne bano
Entebenkera etemagana bana towakana tabagana ne bano
Kati mujje mujje gubumbujje (gubumbujje)
Kati mujje mujje gubumbujje (gubumbujje)

Gubumbujje

Verse 1 translation

*For tranquility to prevail and shine work together with others
For tranquility to prevail and shine work together with others
So come now come let's light our fire and let it blaze (Let our fire blaze)
So come now come let's light our fire and let it blaze (Let our fire blaze)
So come now come let's light our fire and let it blaze (Let our fire blaze)*

We are drowned in negativity
Can we find some positivity
Inside of you inside of me
We are love we are light humanity

Mujje mujje mujje
Mujje mujje mujje

We are drowned in negativity
Can we find some positivity
Inside of you inside of me
We are love we are light humanity

Mujje mujje mujje
Mujje mujje mujje
Mujje mujje mujje
Mujje mujje mujje

Mwattu ogwadyo gunaza ogwa kono
Nazikuno wanno omukwano gwa nono
Gabana ne bano ne bwekaba katono tono
Gabana ne bano ne bwekaba katono tono
Sekera mumutima tokoma mukibuno
Mululu wanno gulese olwokano
Nga ate byona ngano Nyanja na nsano
Fenakyekikimu yagalana ne bano kolagana ne bano
Wuliriza banno
Entebenjera etemagana bana towakana tabagana ne bano
Entebenjera etemagana bana towakana tabagana ne bano
Kati mujje mujje gubumbujje (gubumbujje)
Kati mujje mujje gubumbujje (gubumbujje)

Verse 2 translation

*My beloved you know it is one hand washes the other
Since the beginning of time in this land love has been a norm
So share the little you have with each other
So share the little you have
It doesn't matter if it is small
Laugh from the heart not just with your teeth*

*Realize that greed is the source of all trouble
We do not realize that what we're greedy for is really pointless
It all fades quicker and disappears like a sprinkle of dough on a lake
We should all recognize that we are all one
So let's love each other let's work with each other
Let's listen to each other because
For tranquility to prevail and shine work together with others
For tranquility to prevail and shine work together with others
So come now come let's light our fire and let it blaze (Let our fire blaze)
So come now come let's light our fire and let it blaze (Let our fire blaze)*

Mujje mujje mujje
Mujje mujje mujje

Raha ya dunia ni amani na upendo
Happiness on earth is peace and love
Raha ya dunia ni amani na upendo
Happiness on earth is peace and love

*Mujje mujje mujje
Mujje mujje mujje*

OMUGGA (RIVER)

By
NSIMBI

Silabanga mulungi ngagwe
Ompeweza nga empewo yo kumakya mumawugwe
Gwe atonyesa enkuba gwe ajimusa ebitoke
Gwe bajaja gwebanyumyangako nga osoba oyita mu Kyagwe paka Karagwe
And I like the way your edges sway
How your rhythm rises on the air
Making this East African landscape your dance floor
As a young boy kukyalo with both feet I fell in love with your depth
Like a light I followed you through the forest canopies where you crept to sleep
With butterflies and fireflies
I had to take a sip of your beauty
A queen from the land of kalo
You emerge from the high and bless the low
Rise and my people know it's time to sow
Under the silver light you glow
Nasoka kukulaba Kasokoso nga ekubo limbuze
nkozesa kasso ndi mu ttosi ntya ebinoso
Omusana olwakukubako ho Nalinganga alabye malaika ali obwerere nga anabira
Wankuba eliso nenfa ekimyanso
Olwawenjula mukonzikonzi ne mpulira edobozzi lyo mukazi
Namugga

Intro poem translation

*I have never seen anything as beautiful as you
You replenish me like a cold fresh morning breath when you fill my lungs
You are the reason it rains
You are the reason my plantains germinate and multiply into new buds
You are the one that my grandmothers used to whisper about
They told tales of how you moved gracefully through Kyagwe to Karagwe
And I like the way your edges sway
How your rhythm rises on the air
Making this East African landscape your dance floor
As a young boy in the village I fell in love with your depth
Like a light I followed you through the forest canopies where you crept to sleep
With butterflies and fireflies
I had to take a sip of your beauty
A queen from the land of millet
You emerge from the high and bless the low
Rise and my people know it's time to sow
Under the silver light you glow*

*I was inspired the first time I saw you was in Kasokoso
I had lost my tracks in the muddy waters
I was scared I didn't know my directions
And I was mortified of the slugs but kept on moving
That is when I saw a reflection coming off of you
It felt like I was seeing an angel bathing naked in the rain
You looked at me with a smile and I saw a reflection of the divine
All worth it when I waved away the blades of the tall grass
Just to see you and to hear your ethereal voice
Spirit of the River*

Hey hey ah

Bamuyita Namugga simwana wa mugaga
Mukwateko kube olugga nkulope ewo muganga
Atambula akaga atambula nga mugga
Nalimbukibira nga njiga nankona kukibegabega
Nakyuka ne magamaga nndaba Namugga

Verse 1 translation

*They call her Namugga she doesn't come from wealth but
Don't you dare try to harm her I will fight you to protect her
She walks with a gait and flow
She walks like a river
One day I was on a hunt in the forest
When I felt a touch on my shoulder and when I turned around
There she was in all her beauty
Namugga (Spirit of the river)*

She came up from Jinja floating on a breeze
Free like a river flowing to the sea
Let me drink from your river

Aseyeya nga kiyira akulukuta nga Sezibwa asoba nga Katonga bwemba Nyanja ono
ye mugga Namugga

Chant translation

*She moves calmly like the Nile, flows like the tributaries of Sezibwa, creeps like the
streams of Katonga, like a lake she replenishes me Spirit of the river/Namugga*

Let me drink from your river

Aseyeya nga kiyira akulukuta nga ssezibwa asoba nga katonga bwemba Nyanja ono
ye mugga Namugga

She came up from Jinja floating on a breeze
Free like a river flowing to the sea
Let me drink from your river
Namugga muvanvu Namugga muteffu namuga musilifu muyonjo akwata no luffu
(Namuga is long, Namugga is calm, Namugga is peaceful so clean like morning dew)
Let me drink from your river
Namugga muvanvu Namugga muteffu namuga musilifu muyonjo akwata no luffu
(Namuga is long, Namugga is calm, Namugga is peaceful so clean like morning dew)

In the moonlight side to side we sway
Together your current overtaking me
Your beauty a waterfall of peace
Wash over me river

She came up from Jinja floating on a breeze
Free like a river flowing to the sea
Let me drink from your river
Let me drink from your river
Let me drink from your river
Let me drink from you river

FORSAKEN

By
NSIMBI

A young girl from the Congo
Barefoot she crossed the border in the night
Newborn baby tied to her back
Broken hearted fleeing for their lives
Fearing for those she left behind
Feeling unwanted in the place she arrived
As the sun rises and the days go by
The girl's tears and milk run dry
Now nameless among a sea of weary bodies and worried faces
She holds her hungry baby asking why
Is this the life I'm meant to live oh
What is refuge under his merciless sky

Sweet child how can this be right
Guided by the will to survive
If I saw you would I pass you by
Would I miss your shining light

Mtu ni watu, has the world forsaken you
Mtu ni watu, has the world forsaken you
Mtu ni watu, has the world forsaken you
Mtu ni watu, has the world forsaken you

Chorus translation

*A person is people, has the world forsaken you
A person is people, has the world forsaken you
A person is people, has the world forsaken you
A person is people, has the world forsaken you*

Kuba akafanyi nga gwe gwe bayisa nga kalori kukasasiro
Nga bakutekako olutwe buli woteka ekisinziro
Emyoyo egimu jaguba jakwata ne nziro
Ba refugee babakabya amaziga emisana ne kiiro
Nomuchere gwebatonedde ate ali obulungi nabba ko kiiro
Nga ye olutalo lwamulemesa enimiro
Babuwe abulwa entondo lyo tuzi eliweweza omumiro
Bamugobaganya bamusosola wade empeke ya love zero
Somalia Syria Pader Paka Congo
Ababuka mukitiro kati balinga abali kunkomerero
Uganda Liberia sudan mubiraba eyo
Babuka mu fulampeni kati ate bagwa mumuliro

Verse translation

*Imagine it was you being treated like a marabou stock on a heap of trash
Facing discrimination in every land your heel touches
Some souls have grown dark like they are covered in soot
Making the refugee cry, cold tears flow day and night
When the rice bags donated for relief get swindled by those who are well off and they
do not even spare a kilo
She wishes to go back to the days when her garden gave her plenty before the war
On a long journey through a land of drought, she longs for a drop of water to wet her
throat
Chased from country to country where no one will accept them
Facing the kind of trauma where even sleep eludes her
Somalia, Syria, Pader, up to Congo
They run from the killing fields only to find a harder fight of survival
Uganda, Liberia, Sudan you see them everywhere
People that jumped from the frying pan into an inferno*

Sweet child how can this be right
Guided by the will to survive
If I saw you would I pass you by
Would I see the strength you hold inside

Mtu ni watu, has the world forsaken you
Mtu ni watu, has the world forsaken you
Mtu ni watu, has the world forsaken you
Mtu ni watu, has the world forsaken you

Mtu ni watu, how can this be right
Ekisa kya bajaja ffe kya lagawa
Mtu ni watu, would I pass you by
Mutima ki ogutalaba nti muno atawa
Mtu ni watu, how can this be right
Embeera yensi ogilaba ekawa
Mtu ni watu would I pass you by
Ababona bona tobazimula tobayisa mu nkwawa

Mtu ni watu, has the world forsaken you
Mtu ni watu, has the world forsaken you
Ekisa kya ba jajja ffe kyalagawa
Mtu ni watu, has the world forsaken you
Mutima ki okutalaba nti muno ataawa
Mtu ni watu, has the world forsaken you
Embeera yensi ogilaba ekaawa
Mtu ni watu, has the world forsaken you
Ababonabona tobazimuula tobayisa mu nkwawa
Mtu ni watu, has the world forsaken you
Mtu ni watu, has the world forsaken you
Mtu ni watu, has the world forsaken you

Outro translation

*A person is people, how can this be right
Where did the kindness of our ancestors disappear to
A person is people, would I pass you by
What kind of heart lacks empathy
A person is people, how can this be right
In this cold cruel bitter world
A person is people, would I pass you by
Cater to those suffering, care and do not discriminate.*

*A person is people, has the world forsaken you
A person is people, has the world forsaken you
Where did the kindness of our ancestors disappear to?
A person is people, has the world forsaken you
What kind of hearts lacks empathy?
A person is people, has the world forsaken you
In this cold cruel bitter world
A person is people, has the world forsaken you
Cater to those suffering care and do not discriminate.
A person is people, has the world forsaken you
A person is people, has the world forsaken you
A person is people, has the world forsaken you*

KOONA (*BEAT IT*)

By
NSIMBI

Mbade mumawanga nga ntabala
Njiga abaana bafune ku kyokulya
Nagukide eno muba cheru pe
Nebambuza kiki ekikulese
Ntunula angazi I had nothing to say
Nebambuza kukitundu jenva
Abantu bange babeera batya
Olulimi lwenjogera baluyita batya
Nembagumya nti temubanakutya
Otontoma okotya olwo bwosanyuka
Obo'tya ?

Verse translation

*I have been in the world travelling
Hunting and working hard so the children can eat
I found myself in the land of white people
The authorities asked me why I was there
Dumbfounded I had nothing to say
They asked me what part of the world I was from
They asked me about the ways of my people
They asked me what strange language I was speaking
I told them to relax and have no fear
Then they told me they had heard about the poetry and stories
But what do we do when we are happy?*

Koona ku ngoma nkulage bwebabibya
wesibe akaliba nkulage bwebabibya
Kubako mungalo nkulage bwebabibya
Nyenya ku ndege nkulage bwebabibya
Koona ku ngoma nkulage bwebabibya
wesibe akaliba nkulage bwebabibya
Kubako mungalo nkulage bwebabibya
Nyenya ku ndege nkulage bwebabibya

Chorus translated

*Bang on the drum let me show you how we dance
Tie the fur around your waist I will show you how we dance
If you clap for me I will show you how we dance
Bring out the shakers let me show you how we dance
Bang on the drum let me show you how we dance
Tie the fur around your waist I will show you how we dance*

*If you clap for me I will show you how we dance
Bring out the shakers let me show you how we dance*

Omusango gwo kusalimba naguziza
Cherupe omu yambuziza
Nti gwe ookuja wanno kabaka yakukiriza
Yambuziza nga alina obuyinza
Konze ebuganda jenva tetulina visa
Twelira tooke tetulina pizza
Ddodo munyama mukibya netukoza
Suupu wa nakati netuwuuta
Abalunyanja ku mpuuta
Obudde bwebuziba embuggo netufungiza
Tuzina muwogola netuwomereza
Embuttu nezikuba kubuli saaza
Okukunganya abalangira nabakopi
Kinobe edibba lye nswaswa tolisa mpi
Okuba engalabi obula jabya
Kokubye engoma kankulage bwebabibya

Verse 2 translation

*I pleaded guilty to trespassing illegally into their country
One white officer asked
Did your king give you permission to travel?
He asked me with the utmost authority
I answered him saying in my village we are free
To travel with no visa
We eat matoke and do not have pizza
We eat doddo and nyama
Where we dip into the calabash and feast
Thick healthy veggie soup to sip on
Everyday fishermen catch fresh water fish
And when it gets dark we knot the bark cloth
We dance to the muwogola rhythm
Melodies with flavor fill the air accented with a bang of drums
In every corner of the kingdom
We come together as one the royals and common men
Kinobe would be slapping on the monitor lizard hide
Beating on the drum like he was trying to kill it with rhythm
Now that you are beating on the drum too, let me show you how we dance*

Koona ku ngoma nkulage bwebabibya
wesibe akaliba nkulage bwebabibya
Kubako mungalo nkulage bwebabibya
Nyanya ku ndege nkulage bwebabibya
Koona ku ngoma nkulage bwebabibya

wesibe akaliba nkulage bwebabibya
Kubako mungalo nkulage bwebabibya
Nyenya ku ndege nkulage bwebabibya

ACHOLI BOY

By
NSIMBI

I asked a little boy why his face was so solemn
Crying he said he was tired of living and he was missing home
I had a second question but he rushed off when he had his name called "Opio"
The next day when he saw me at the local spot
He asked if he could perform for me, I agreed
Behind the curtain I watched him prepare to give me a show
He had charcoal and ash for Acholi face paint
He told me his poem was about a lizard that had forgotten its totem
As he sang of a tribe that had no anthem except love
Touched we quickly became friends and I asked him about his relatives
He said they were long gone and there was no reviving them
Hungry but his stomach looked swollen malnourished on the streets of Kampala
He was among the forgotten children
He had the face of hope but whose future had been stolen
His stories were sunrays of nostalgia and November winds of melancholy
The little lion had hunger for a bowl of soup
He wished for a warm bed
Dreaming of what the many fortunate consider mundane
I told him come here my dear, believe in heavens lil' brother and let love steer
A stranger in his own country they called him the little boy from nowhere
Performing beyond his bed time in a place where tired workers were served local beer
Gifted with words I called him Ngugi, Okot P'bitek, young Chinua
Yet he was starring in his own novel of growing up abandoned and poor
In a world that was not pure, and even when I told him it was going to be alright
He wasn't sure

GONNA BE ALRIGHT

By
NSIMBI

Alright

Kipo lakini hukioni (*It's there but you can't see it*)
That light that energy

Kipo lakini hukioni (*It's there but you can't see it*)
Just know it's gonna be alright
It's gonna be it's gonna be alright

Togwamu suubi (*Don't loose hope*)
Beera wamanyi (*Be of strength*)

Kipo lakini hukioni (*It's there but you can't see it*)
That light oh that energy
Just know it's gonna be
Alright alright alright
It's gonna be alright

Togwamu suubi (*Don't loose hope*)
Beera wamanyi (*Be of strength*)

FLOWER OF THE HEART

By
NSIMBI

This is what we're made of, nothing's stronger than love
This is what we're made of, nothing's stronger than love

Nalimutto mukyogero nga bansala ekilira
Jajja omulundi ogwasoka okundera twali kyotera
Yagamba maama olwalaba ekibatu ne biseera
Nti ono mukuyamba banne lwali funa empeera
Mulugero mweyayitira nga Yesu eyazukira
munzikiza ekimuli kyo mutima mwekikulira
Kilandira awo awatali tiima awatali taala kyaka nga stima
Kitemagana mu kibira nga enjuki kitukema
Mwatu kiwoma nga entuntunu mu tama
Abaana abatto bakiyonka muba maama
Tosiba face nga agaya katunkuma
Nabankema kyamuwasisa mpima
Omwogezi nabagamba temugeza ne mukitema
Kikume bwebalikikubako ebiyenge yenge buli fuluma

Verse 1 translation

*I was a young soul in my first herb bath shortly after they had cut the umbilical cord
This was the first day my grandmother held me in her hands in Kyotera
She told my mother after reading my palm and neck lines
That my destiny and peace lay in helping many people
It was through traditional folklore and parables that she would prophesy
Just like Yesu who resurrected that in the dark the flower of the heart will bloom
It will spread it's roots where there is no jealousy or envy
Even where there is no light it will illuminate your path like a stima lamp
We see it in the forest attracting us to its bright petals like bees
When it's ingested it's sweeter than wild berries to the insides of the cheeks
The young babies suckle it from the breast of their mothers
So why should you frown your face and be bitter like you just ate wild pepper
The flower is charmed Nabakema now married to Mpima
The advice from the elders to them was to tend to the flower and never let it die
And to protect it because once it's stolen it will be gone forever
And all eyes will water from the loneliness and sadness*

Blooming in darkness (penzi ni ua/love is a flower)
Love is a flower that does not need the sun
Shining in darkness (halitaki jua/that doesn't need sun)
Love is a flower that does not need the sun

Ua la moyo, flower of the heart
Ua la moyo, flower of the heart
Ua la moyo, flower of the heart

Chorus translation

Flower of the heart, flower of the heart
Flower of the heart, flower of the heart
Flower of the heart, flower of the heart

Troubled eyes and troubled soul
You've journeyed far from lands unknown
Aching feet and weary bones
Come to me and unburden the pain you hold

Mu mpuku yo kubonabona kwange simanyi oba ondaba
Bwempogana simanyi oba ompulira
Nze kulwazi ekimuli kyange kwekyakulira
Amaziga genakaaba gegakifukirira
Mumasanganzira gekibira jenabulira ne bunzibilira
Nenzibirira ne ndowoza eyo ebinyonyi jebibukira
Omukwano bweliba jji nanonya alimamira
Maaso mbira eyansisita bweyankonako sasikatira

Verse 2 translation

In the cave of my suffering I don't know if you can see me
When I scream from the valley of pain I don't know if you can hear me
It was on the rock that my flower grew
The tears that I cried were the rains that watered it
At a junction of paths in a thick forest is where I lost my way
When it got so dark I closed my eyes and escaped with my mind
To a place where the birds flew to the sunny horizon
If love were an egg I longed for the beauty that would hatch through the cracks
And there you were smiling with your beady eyes
The spirit that touched me on the shoulder and led me through it all
How could I ever hesitate!

Blooming in darkness (penzi ni ua/love is a flower)
Love is a flower that does not need the sun
Shining in darkness (halitaki jua/that doesn't need the sun)
Love is a flower that does not need the sun

Ua la moyo, flower of the heart
Ua la moyo, flower of the heart
Ua la moyo, flower of the heart

Silaba bantu ndaba bimuli nze/*I do not see people, I see flowers*
Silaba bantu ndaba bimuli /*I do not see people, I see flowers*
Everybody's just the same when you look inside
A heart that beats, a soul with wings reaching for the sky
This is what we're made of nothing's stronger than love
Ndaba mu ebimuli/*I see flowers inside of you*
This is what we made of nothing's stronger than love
Ndaba mu ebimuli/*I see flowers inside of you*
Mugwe ndaba mu ekimuli/*In you I see flowers*

Blooming in darkness (mpenzi ni ua/*love is a flower*)
Love is a flower that doesn't need the sun
Shining in darkness (halitaki jua/*that doesn't need the sun*)
Love is a flower that does not need the sun

Mugwe mulimu ebimuli
Mwoli mulimu ebimuli
Muffe mulimu ebimuli
Ensi nimiro yabimuli
Mubantu mulimu ebimuli
Mugwe mulimu ekili
Mumuto ndabamu ekimuli
Africa nimiro yabimuli
Ndabamu ekimuli
Mugwe ndabamu ekimuli
Ne munze mulimu ekimuli
Ensi nimiro ya bimuli

Penzi ni uwa
Silababantu ndaba bimuli

Outro translation
Inside of you are flowers
Even in them I see flowers
Inside us are flowers
The world is a garden of flowers
There are flowers inside of people
There are flowers inside of you
I see flowers in children
Africa is a garden of bright flowers
I see flowers
In you I see flowers
I feel flowers inside of me
The world is a garden of flowers
Love is a flower
I don't see people I see their flowers

KULUSOZI (*IN THE HILLS*)

By
NSIMBI

Wagulu kulusozi wansi mumazi nga ensonzi
Bazanya tappo wansi wa musizi
Mukitangala kyo mwezi osobola okulaba omukwano
Gwakawala nakalenzi
Olusi mu mpewo bwefuwa obulungi
Nowuliriza bulungi no wouliriza bulungi
Osobola okubawulira amalobozi.

Translation

*They play up high in the hills
They play deep down below the surface of the water like catfish
They play tapo under the mahogany trees
Sometimes in the moonlight
Sometimes when the wind just blows right
You can listen to them talk and giggle*

MOONGLOW

By
NSIMBI

Mwanga wa mwezi
Mwanga mwanga
Mwanga wa mwezi
Mwanga mwanga
Mwanga wa mwezi
Mwanga mwanga
Mwanga wa mwezi
Mwanga mwanga

Chorus translation

Glow of the moon

Glow glow

Glow of the moon

Glow glow

Glow of the moon

Glow glow

Glow of the moon

Glow glow

Omukwano gumbuganye mpulira gunsiwa ekiro
Mbulwa otulo nga eyasuze mubulolo
Akasisira olusi nsula sisibyewo munyolo nga ninda
Ogeze owogane ndyoke nkutire ensolo
Njikulemu ebiwowolo ompite omuzira owekitalo
Mumukwano yenze kikolo
Wansi wa musizi okumpi ne nsulo kirikiri mabelo
Nzeno wewange under the moonglow
Abatesi balaba ebisikirize bibiri nga bizanyira mumwezi
Nebantandika okuwulira enuggu mukisakiro
Naye ffe tetufaayo emunyenye zitukubira mungalo
Ndaga akukwatako mugabire ekibbo kyengolo

Verse 1 translation

Love has engulfed me taken me over completely it itches at night

I loose sleep like chicken lice invaded the bed

I no longer lock the door on the hut at night

Because I lie listening intently in case you were to shout or call my name

To save you from invaders

I would rip out their guts for you just so you can see how brave I am

To show that I would protect you

So find me under the musizi tree I will wait for you my songbird

*To become mine under this moonglow
Some people grow envious as they watch our silhouettes playing in the moonlight
But we do not care, the constellation of stars claps and twinkles brighter just for us
I will serve a basket of pain to who ever dare to touch you my love haha*

Oh the sky is limitless (mwezi)
Hold me under the moonglow (mwezi)
The stars are infinite (mwezi)
We come alive in the moonglow (mwezi)

Mwanga wa mwezi
Mwanga mwanga
Mwanga wa mwezi
Mwanga mwanga
Mwanga wa mwezi
Mwanga mwanga
Mwanga wa mwezi
Mwanga mwanga

Lwali lunaku lwakubiri enaku zo mwezi abiri mu biri
Mu mwezi ogwokubiri walina emyaka abiri mwebiri
Lwenakusanga mu kikiri emabega wenyumba ye muli nga oyaka nga kimuli
Nematira engeri jewali ozina carefully paka mumaliri
Nga omumbejja mulubiri akasusu ko kaliri
Bakuwunda omubiri ewande toliba nambabiri
Omukwano gwo guwoma (mwaa) nga entwingiri
Subiri akukwatako akiri ntaama nga empologoma jebasise obuswiriri
Ompa amanyi agasitula enjovu ne wewuka nga ensiri
Kilikiri mabelo kanyonyi kange joli che

Verse 2 translation

*It was a Tuesday on the twenty-second day of the second month
You were just a few years past twenty-two when I found you at the bar
Behind the reed house and you were like a bright flower
I immediately knew you were different I adored how you were smiling
Our hearts entangled dancing carefully into the morning
Like a princess from a castle your lily skin was impeccable
A divine shape of the body like you were sculpted by the heavens
And your kisses tasted like (mwaa) fried chicken
I swear to care and protect you if they dare touch you
I will roar with the madness of a lion whose whiskers have been pulled
You give me the strength that could lift an elephant making it feel lighter than a
mosquito
It is peaceful when I am laying quietly with you here my songbird*

Oh the sky is limitless (mwezi)
Hold under the moon glow (mwezi)
The stars is infinite (mwezi)
Come alive in the moon glow (mwezi)

Mwanga wa mwezi
Mwanga mwanga
Mwanga wa mwezi
Mwanga mwanga
Mwanga wa mwezi
Mwanga mwanga
Mwanga wa mwezi
Mwanga mwanga

Universe apart, gravity of love's destiny stronger than space and time
Like a drumbeat in the night, calling through the silence it's speaking from inside
Universe apart, gravity of love's destiny stronger than space and time
Like a drumbeat in the night, calling through the silence it's speaking from inside

Mwanga wa mwezi
Mwanga mwanga
Mwanga wa mwezi
Mwanga mwanga
Mwanga wa mwezi
Mwanga mwanga
Mwanga wa mwezi
Mwanga mwanga

SOKOTA (*TIE UP/READY TO DANCE*)

By
NSIMBI

Wololo
Ndete ndete ndete ndete
Wololo
Ndete ndete ndete ndete

Intro translation

Wololo (chant)

Should I bring it, should I bring it, should I bring it, should I bring it

Wololo

Should I bring it, should I bring it, should I bring it, should I bring it

Sokota sakata sokota

Tie up, beat it, ready to dance

Eh mama sokota sokota sokota

Eh mama katika katika katika

Eh mama sokota sokota sokota

Eh mama katika katika katika

C'est ca

Intro 2 translation

Oh mama tie up ready to hit tie up

Oh mama dance dance dance until you can't

Oh mama tie up ready to dance tie up

Oh mama dance dance dance until you can't

This is it

Ndete ndete letta

Ndete ndete letta

Sokota sakata sakata sokota sokota sakata katika

Ndete ndete letta

Ndete ndete letta

Sokota sakata sakata sokota sokota sakata katika

Intro 3 translation

Should I bring it Should I bring it (bring it)

Should I bring it Should I bring it (bring it)

Tie up beat it ready to hit tie up lets dance

Should I bring it Should I bring it (bring it)

Should I bring it Should I bring it (bring it)

Tie up beat it ready to hit tie up lets dance until we can't

When the drum beats (ngoma yo bwekuba)/*when the drum beats*
When the drum beats (ngoma yo bwekuba)
When the drum beats (ngoma yo bwekuba)
I feel it flow
When the drum beats (ngoma yo bwekuba)
I'm letting go

Oh wololo wololo wololo
Oh wololo wololololo

Free your mind, free your soul
Get lost in the rhythm, let it go
Oh wololo
Oh wololo
Lost in the rhythm sokota sakata
Lost in the rhythm sokota katika
Lost in the rhythm sokota sakata
Lost in the rhythm sokota katika

Refrain translation

Lost in the rhythm tie up beat it
Lost in the rhythm tie up dance until you can't
Lost in the rhythm ready to hit beat it
Lost in the rhythm tie up lets dance until you can't

Tuzina muwogola sundiata Fela kuti keita ne ssebata
Leero ekikere kiri kumbata endongo ehabula nga olunyata
Mpogana nga gwebasala akanyata abatufako zempewo ezikungunta
Entuyo zikulukuta ntumya ekita omugongo wetta
Nakotakota kuluno alata gwozadde akukubira engoma no sakata
Kodina kibatu mu kiwalata buli omu nowewuwe afuna wakwata
Ndongo ewoma nga suupu wemputa yeno eyimusa olutiko kumutunta
Wansi tukulukuta ebiwato bitumenyeka obulamu tubumeketa ebyana tuweweta
Abatesi baweta ezo mbuzi kubikuta ffetulinga kappa eli kumata
Mukamwakange mwemuva ebinyuma mukiwato kyo mwemuva ebyama
Nze no mwana wa maama lazima tuzina paka enkoko bwezikokolima

Verse 1 translation

We dance to Muwogola, Sundiata, Fela kuti, Keita and Ssebata
Today the frogs will leap on the back of the duck
For this beat burns ferociously like a forest fire
Shouting at the top of our lungs unencumbered like the epiglottis was cut
As the sweat drips I order for another round for those gyrating bending their backs
On this day even the old and hunched will let out
As the saying goes the ones you birth will play the drums for to dance

*Kodina the dance where the palm meets the forehead
Lovers with their loved ones caress to find the best spot on the body to hold
The Ndongo is sounding sweeter it's like tilapia soup
The kind that gives you goose bumps and makes your hairs stand
Down we go, the hips wiggle we are feeling the taste of free life
We have ladies to woo too
The haters look at us like goats chewing peelings of cud
We look at them happy like a cat licking milk
From my mouth I give you sweet words
I can already tell from the way you move your hips that you possess a secret
But for now me and you tonight shall dance until the cock crows*

Oh wololo
Oh wololo

Zamba Zamba
Telema yaka tobina ndeko na ngai
Koyoka sonite
Ya lobi okoyeba te
Ya lelo nde yayo
Fungula motema
Hear me move your body to the right
Your body to the left
Move your feet to the right
Your feet to the left
Shake your body like your mama
Your body like your papa
Shake your body like your mama
Your body like your papa

Verse 2 translation
*Zamba Zamba
Stand, come lets dance together my friend
Don't be shy
Tomorrow is very unpredictable
But today is yours
Open your heart and loose your self
Hear me move your body to the right
Your body to the left
Move your feet to the right
Your feet to the left
Shake your body like your mama
Your body like your papa
Shake your body like your mama
Your body like your papa*

Sokota katika sokota wololo
Sokota katika sokota wololo
Sokota katika sokota wololo

Hey hey
Oh free your mind
Oh yeah yeah
Oh yeah free

AMAKA (THE CONCEPT OF A FAMILY)

By
NSIMBI

Abeeyo abeenno nze nina kyendese
Abeeyo abeenno nze nina kyendese
Yita ne mulirwana muyitte asembere
Nabaana balete nabo kambabulirire
Waliwo kyenalabye eyo mukizinga esese
Ensi yo etabuse nkugambye wetuse
Omusaja yalese embuzzi kumukolo ajiwase
Omukyala yakubye bba kata omutwe agwase
Abantu balina empisa ezikunjubuse
Emitayimbwa ejali jizimba kati jebagula babise
Egwanga elyali elyawamu lisenbuse
Abaali abamagezi bawuguse
Abaali abekitibwa baseguse
Amaka gagwawo
Nga abaana kubazadde bawaguse amaka gagwawo
Nga ebigambo ebikuvamu sibyakawowo amaka gagwawo
Nabakulembeze baffe bawukuse amaka gagwawo

Verse 1 Translation

*My beloved here and my beloved there I have a message for you
My beloved here and my beloved there I have a message for you
Call your neighbor too to come near
Bring the children too they need to bare witness
There is something so strange that I saw on Ssesse Island
The world is running crazy as we speak
In the village court was man accused of bestiality
In another case a woman had split the husbands head open
The people no longer have the morals that shined
The iron bars that used to build houses are now tools for robbery
The ancient country that used to be one is now divided
The men who were fountains of wisdom are now unreliable
The men who used to command respect are now most corrupt
(As the concept of a family slowly melts away)
The children no longer heed the advice of their parents
(As the concept of a family slowly melts away)
When the words leaving your lips no longer have charm or flavor
(As the concept of a family slowly melts away)
It is sad that our leaders too have become gluttons with greed!*

Empissa zo mumaka nazono zigwawo
Tudeyo kumpisa ezabakasangwawo
Ekisinze okututa kwekukopera
Gubula asala nga omutto ate yawabula
Nfudde mama jajange anzala
Ababula edda gwe ogoberera
Kibakikyamu abaami okupaala
Notalabirira mabujje go zala
Abakyala no namwe mbanenya
Mungu akuwa atya oluzalo ate nosula
Amaka gagwawo

Verse 2 Translation

*What is happening is that the norms of a family are fading
Can we go back to the norms of our ancestors?
What is killing our society the most is the propagation of selfishness
It is a conundrum when infants behave better than their elders
Those who have been lost for a long time why follow
It is also extremely wrong for men to walk away from responsibility
Not taking care of the children you have fathered
To our women the heavens give us children to nurture
It is a tragedy to abandon them.
(As the concept of a family slowly melts away)
(As the concept of a family slowly melts away)*

Around the fireplace under the beautiful night sky filled with stars
There were oohs and aahs as an African family would gather to feast, dance, chant
and sing
They would learn from the old men and women, grey haired we called them the
elders
(Amaka gagwawo/As the concept of a family slowly melts away)
They told stories of our ancestry poetry in adventure, virtue respect for fellow men
through legends
An African version of a university was the fireplace community symbiotic co-
existence was shining through the beauty of our diversity
We learned how to share from our mothers
Learned how to gather and hunt from our fathers
We were told to have compassion for others, strangers, travellers and the sick
*"My sons, protect nature and the wild but most importantly open your fist and shake
hands, reach out to each other with an open palm"*
Our forefathers knew that to build a strong society
You had to start the smallest unit of a family
Where the quintessential African values were your sisters, your brothers were all
part of an extended family
Keep the family together