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**EXCURSIONS**  
**A Selection of Poems**  
**By**  
**Anthony Akika**

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**For**  
**Awazhi**  
**and**  
**Akyenayi**

## PREFACE

### Poet's Note

These verses were written during some of my grey periods, a time of my most contemplative self.

I tried to explore my life's trajectory and interests and remembrances and the basic questions of life, and even the significance of space exploration within the context of the meaning of life.

Poetry is soul sensitive and involves a lot of introspection, and a degree of precision in delivering in fewer words the message of the poet, unlike the novel or the short story. Sometimes, there are deeper layers of meanings and interpretation.

In this selection of twenty six poems, Excursions, written between May to October, 2021, and July 1-10, 2022, except for two written earlier, I have coursed on a poetic soulful journey.

Anthony Akika  
Lafia  
10 July 2022

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**1. DAWN**

A golden eastern ray,  
presages dawn,  
over the azure sky,  
in dashes and patches,  
of paint in spray.

The quietude,  
interspersed by cockcrows,  
otherwise the quietude,  
then of the lone, and then,  
of the two-some bird chirping  
away, in rapid succession.

And the stillness of the trees,  
and the light darkness of the dawn,  
transiting, slipping, into the lightness  
of the day.

And the freshness of the air,  
and the moistness of the dew,  
all passing and passing,  
to the bright morning sun.

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May 30, 2021

## 2. RAINFALL

Over grey skies,  
and rumbling thunderstorms,  
the quick lightning,  
furious winds,  
and a cool breeze;

The rain falls,  
in splatters and splashes,  
in steady drizzles,  
in the sways of the trees.

And the thirst of the earth,  
and the scorch of the sun,  
is quenched by the waters,  
from the heavens.

And the crops sprout,  
and the flowers bloom,  
in this unity of water,  
earth and life.

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May 31, 2021

## 3. SUNSET

A silvery bright sunray,  
in the West, that's evening,  
in farewell to the day,  
in a semi-colon, that's evening.

The evening rays,  
shine through the trees,  
and the pores of the skin,  
feel the softness of the sun.

The recession of the sun;  
in golden farewell rays,  
and molten red,  
the day eclipses,  
into the darkness of the night.

Anthony Akika  
September, 2021