

Poetry Series

# **Efe Benjamin**

## **- poems -**

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## Efe Benjamin(Nov.19,1985)

If there is anything within I must be proud of in my lifetime, it is what I have said; what I have written, what I have done, what I believe, and what I have thought people about...

# ' If You Know Me

i don't want you  
to know me,  
if you know me,  
you will  
not respect me.  
i want you  
to respect me  
like i respect you.

.  
i don't want you  
to love me  
'cause you  
don't know me,  
if you love me,  
i might break  
your heart as  
someone like you  
broke my heart.

.  
i don't want you  
to come to my house  
'cause i don't want  
to be a fornicator,  
like i was before  
i changed my life.

.  
these things are  
not part of my life,  
love and lust  
are not my priority,  
i want you to see  
this reality.

Efe Benjamin

## '    **Silent Girl (Reprise)**

Silent girl of the river goddess  
Why do you speak not of our love  
Why did you give not our love a try  
For in you I rediscovered my name  
My name that was burning like  
Wild fire in the harmattan  
You are all in my dreams;  
My wish, my never ending stream  
My life with you, like a dream of reality  
When will you speak yet of our love  
In my heart I hear the  
Silent tone of your song;  
Enchanting, sunrise of my world.  
And when our death comes  
I will go with you to somewhere  
Anywhere, and your fate shall  
Also be mine.  
My aspirations are long lost in the  
Shadow of your frame  
And you are all I need to  
Achieve my aim.  
For you, silent girl of the water  
goddess  
Will I sacrifice my all  
To be with you in your kingdom  
Of nowhere.

Efe Benjamin

## ' Singing Love

Singing for love;  
Every time you look up  
Birds chirping in love's delight  
Is made for your own design  
I love you, you love me  
And love for a world  
Spinning like a hell's tide  
Like the woman, pregnant  
Who just let out the child  
Unbountiful joy reeling in the mind

Efe Benjamin

# ' You Laughed And Laughed And Laughed

I told you I was in love,  
But you laughed and  
Laughed and laughed.

.  
I gave you my love,  
But you did not give me yours,  
Instead, you kept mine, and  
Gave yours to another.

.  
You laughed at my song,  
You laughed at my walk,  
Then I danced my magic dance  
to the rhythm of the talking  
drums pleading.

.  
But you shut your eyes, and laughed  
And laughed and laughed.

Efe Benjamin

## ' Death Impending

Death is hanging on a loom  
My ship is set sail a quest  
No boon, no time for rest  
Life leaning on a strife till every noon  
Everyday, everywhere stares death  
in the eyes  
With all dangers of fire, water, and desire  
The inevitable certainty of diseases,  
For a world as imperfect in nature.

.  
And death is hanging on a loom  
Waiting every time for the one cut  
And there comes the inexplicable  
Journey of deaths oblivion.

Efe Benjamin

## ' Don't Look Far Off

don't look far off, at this time  
in rue the world is taking  
on its grime  
with moral and goodness lost in time  
in a world of ghosts,  
religion and god  
vices of man taking on its toll  
a serene world of imagination  
where religion lies  
angels and god who fly high  
in heavenly  
but ours of gloom and complexity  
I take a look at the serene sky  
a lovely world in my minds eye  
a world beyond all mortal mind  
that I longed to have a peek some day  
the wounds of christ's crucifixion day.

.

on earth you struggle, you toil all day  
in heavens god's angels sing antiphony  
of his unending praise  
the feats of god is beyond bound.  
sunday churches queue up all  
manner of sinners  
lawyers and liars, leaders and looters  
robbers and fraudsters  
all in name of religion are going higher  
as if crucifix and bible is religion  
and god.

Efe Benjamin



# ' I Love Thee

I love thee;  
Tho' always you fly free  
Above edge of lovers deed.

.  
I envy thee;  
As true thy height is beyond mine humble reach  
So I fantasize thee.

.  
I dream of thee;  
Every night as I go to sleep  
I praise God for thee.

.  
As thy beauty  
Defies nature's own comparism  
And girls all wish to be thee.

.  
I'm proud of thee;  
As nothing more hold meaning yet to me  
So I die for thee.

Efe Benjamin

# ' My Africa Home

My Africa, my home  
As I cast back my mind  
To days before I left  
Before you left me impotent  
Before the wars broke  
Before thieves and looters  
Who parade themselves  
As politicians  
Took over your affairs  
Before morale and hopes  
were lost, and both old  
And young, left your shores  
To 'I dont know where'  
When I think of what  
This modernisation has  
done to you, I weep;  
Men, thinking,  
and inventing  
everyday,  
New and more  
sophisticated kind of  
weapons,  
For the destruction of the  
Fellow man.  
It is almost three decades  
now, and I still think of you  
Like yesterday.

Efe Benjamin

# ' The Prostitute

At night she hawks;  
her pride hidden  
between her thighs  
and I desire her.

At corners of  
red-light districts;  
her comrades,  
together with her  
flaunting their wares,  
caught my eyes  
and I desire her.

Till dawn she  
does her trade  
giving to every me,  
willing to buy,  
her forbidden fruit.  
And I desire her  
- I desire her.

Efe Benjamin

# ' Think About It

Think about it  
About you, about me  
About everything  
You were born to meet  
Think about love  
About God, of religion  
Think about wealth, of money  
And frivolities.

.  
Just think about history  
Of you, and me  
Playing by the sea  
Think about day, and night  
When we meet  
For the first time  
Was love at first sight  
Do you remember  
How we loved forever.

.  
Now think about church  
Of pastors  
Whose love only for money  
Think about government  
In human polity  
Who care less for hungry masses  
Think about men, of politics  
And empty promises.

.  
Did you think about false prophets  
On the island  
How they cursed for the naira  
Think about Nigeria  
Of Jonathan, and Boko Haram.

.  
Just think about kids  
Who were stolen  
And their freedom taken  
Did you ask why  
They curse, and weep

Just to be free  
Do you often think about nemesis,  
Of community, and togetherness  
So you think of diseases, of good health.  
And blessings,  
The virtue of patience.

.

Did you think about poets  
Whose wealth only of words  
Endearing for years  
Think about philosophy  
Of Greeks, and mythology  
Beliefs defying normalcy.

.

Will you think about Romans,  
Of romance, when you give  
Someone your heart  
So you think about hell,  
Of heaven, lucifer and devils  
Think about begining  
How you came from nothing  
For I already know these things.

.

So you think, think about it..

Efe Benjamin

## ' Wonderful Woman

Wonderful woman  
I just can't but wonder  
How much I've come  
to love her.  
It is all a marvel  
My life in a rubble  
Love brings pain in double  
Sold mine in the struggle.  
A kiss from a sinner  
Could change my life for better  
Now I am getting older  
And I know I am getting better  
For your love I have hungered  
Give me thy love dear Pandora  
You're such a wonderful woman  
I still can't but wonder  
How much you've made me a sinner.

.  
Wonderful woman  
Kiss me and take me to yonder  
And yet I still wonder  
Your love had made me a better man  
Thank you for that;  
You're such a wonderful woman.

Efe Benjamin

## ' A Kiss From Jove

Running here and there  
Scampering for daily bread  
Between you and me  
Ills eating deep in between  
At the theatre the singing birds  
Girls dancing like hell and fire  
Lust of men and burning desires  
Beggars lurking at the banking  
gates  
Religious hypocrites with genuine  
hate  
Haramians burning at the  
Northern  
states  
Men in black now watch over the  
churches gates.

Efe Benjamin

## ' Black Jesus (White Jesus)

Black Jesus;  
Redeem my black soul  
I was born in Hell and fire  
Will you condemn me to  
another  
If you knew my story  
I know you'd be sorry  
A boy who knew no father  
Just a hapless mother  
How far could she go  
With such burden left  
for her alone.  
Holy white Jesus;  
Will you hear my supplication  
I was born in Hell and fire  
Will you condemn me to  
another..

Efe Benjamin



# ' Call Of The River Nun

Holy beautiful nun, you tax my memory,  
Over you boys are flaunting their abilities  
To shoulder a social taboo  
While some dance in heartfelt joy  
For the glory of the Lord hoped to come.

.  
And you, with proud regalia of faith  
Your hands outstretched to the sky in worship  
Of God of your dear religion.

.  
You looked down at these boys who  
Worship you and wonder how God of this religion  
Could bestow such unbeatable beauty  
on you alone  
And yet not let you be a bride some day.

.  
Hey! holy beautiful nun, I love you like the  
Host of these young boys  
Who hover around you  
you like bees to their hive.

And I younger, and my love stronger,  
We could go yonder together.  
I know the father would be glad to see  
us together.

.  
So why don't you lay down those regalia  
To a new world full of love  
Which I will show you.

.  
In you have I built my faith, we could live happy  
Thru' eternity.

Efe Benjamin

# ' Girl In Hell

when i heard;  
i mean,  
when they told me  
you were dead,  
i did not cry;  
i simply went  
and died.  
and then  
i asked lucifer  
to bring  
me here,  
for i knew  
you must be  
in hell.

Efe Benjamin

# ' God! Please Give Me A Break

God! please give me a break  
Today the world is ruled by hate  
If your world was made from love  
Why was Lucifer brought upon us..

.  
God please give me a name  
For long have I wandered in shame  
Let the Muses sing for my sake  
Till I die and lie in state..

.  
Christ please come to our aid  
For how long shall we live in pain  
Bring paradise to the world you create  
As your kingdom, in faith we await.

Efe Benjamin

# ' I Will Make You Cry

I will make you cry  
In the night, at dawn  
Or everyday of your life  
I will make you blush  
When you fall in love  
You see wrong in every song  
You look in the mirror  
Embed in your own vision  
Your love for self only  
Like government in human polity  
Careless for hungry masses  
Lunatics in sunday churches  
Religion cum petty trading  
But you don't know a thing  
Satan will laugh over your folly  
Don't you have fleeting desires  
In dark you turn from godly messiah  
And I will make you cry  
In the morning, at night  
Or everyday of your life  
I will make you mourn  
When you'd denied me love.

Efe Benjamin

# ' Lay Your Life In Mine

Lay your life in mine  
My love,  
Humans we are,  
But love brings  
Us closer, and closer  
Time and age burn away  
Beauty and Strength,  
But not love; divine love;  
Love of a kind.

.  
Soul and body have  
No bound to lovers  
As they fall more and more;  
Deeper and deeper in love.

.  
Lay your life in mine  
My love,  
Time and age burn away,  
But my love for you remains.

Efe Benjamin

## ' Men In Chains

Men in chains  
In malady of the age,  
Bigots in rage  
Worshippers lie in state.  
Another Church  
Bombed last night,  
Good God! take them  
Out of my sight.  
Is this the folly in Religion?  
I thought we worship  
A one God.  
What have those children  
Done that you bring  
Them to hurt?

.  
This morning,  
One father murdered  
His son for love of money  
Imagine!  
This mother abandoned  
Her child, cause she can't keep him,  
Holy Christ!  
It takes one like you  
To make the devil wise.  
You must strike down  
The oppressors  
Of my people.  
For in heart of man  
Your love had dwindled.

.  
Who said Christ  
Did not live Nazareth?  
Three days after death  
He resurrect.  
Up in the Heavenly  
He made His throne,  
So we could die tomorrow  
And have a home.  
In His glory, His mercy

We live in hope.

Efe Benjamin

# ' My Story

I was born in a year  
Of a great depression,  
.  
My parents were born here  
A life made of deprivation,  
.  
Dave, gave me my name;  
By instructions of my mother  
.  
My mother told me all about  
My runaway father,  
.  
My mother did her best  
To bring me up better,  
.  
My mother told me  
I would be a leader  
- a speaker  
- a fighter,  
.  
I left my mother' s home  
To search for survival,  
.  
Sam said I have become  
A great photographer,  
.  
I have a craving for the arts  
And poems that don't rhyme.

Efe Benjamin



# ' My White Queen

So would I, to blood once again  
So would I  
To my white queen  
The stars have departed  
From her eyes  
So would I  
Sail to my black land once again  
To my brother who must  
root again  
With black blood rejuvenating  
the ecstasy of a child  
Old and young, washed with the tide  
No, not my queen  
With star spume beaming in her eyes  
With blood, black and white  
In fits of rage  
To where dreams lie within dreams.  
It is Africa, home of plenty.  
Take me to the fields  
Where brothers have marched in deceit  
O' Africa, your banner of love is hoised  
Not again my love will I hurt  
For she is gone, my white queen  
And my song I sing anew  
To my brother, my sister in past rue.  
We have come to the field  
To cultivate this field green  
The field within our dreams  
Africa's dream.

Efe Benjamin

## ' Since You Left

My dear, since you left  
Rain of tears have been  
Falling down my eyes.

My dear, when you left  
My eyes have known no smile,  
You took all with you  
When you left.

My dear, what would I do  
If not for your beautiful smile.

My dear, since you left  
This cold has become  
My best friend without  
You to hold?

Since you left, my dear  
Since you left.  
My life knew no other you.  
I love you my dear,  
I love you.

Would you come back now  
And stay as close to my heart  
Like you were,  
Before you left.  
Now you know I love you  
My dear, I love you.

Efe Benjamin

## ' There Was A Moment

There was a moment in my life  
That I saw a light  
Like beam from a star  
falling down  
You took my hand and led me  
Thru' thorn of a journey, my fairyland  
At that moment I knew your smile  
Like fantasy of my desires  
I saw you searching for  
the inner me  
Hidden deep beneath the shores  
of the limbo  
Your eyes haunting everywhere I go  
For in that desolate place  
Where only pure hearted deads' go to stay  
Have I hidden my love, my pains.  
In the dark of my heart  
My fate as bleak as the coal  
There was nothing left to hope  
Just me, my fantasy and dream.  
But there, when I recall this moment  
of my life  
With nothing left in my world  
Emptied with me, you only and love  
God's light is falling down thru' eternity.

Efe Benjamin

## ' Under Saturn

Do not curse this day  
I have become bearded  
Still not yet a sage  
As some would say  
He sits on the grime  
of the age  
and repose  
all endearment  
to enlightenment.  
I have also come to a stage  
Where I would resign to fate  
And kill all doubt on divine.  
A God of the age  
Jews call Him Jehovah  
And Islamists would say Allah,  
May His name be praised.  
To achieve these feats  
Which religion preach  
Not all could defeat doubt  
That has eaten up my heart.  
Still in search for truth,  
How a world as this  
came through.  
Scholars call it philosophy  
Agnostics would not say of it  
And atheists need get more education  
As they recline on the divinity  
of a higher God.  
Under Saturn came an age  
Devoid of strife and pain  
Greek later gods ruled in rage  
With all human attributes  
Of weaknesses.  
They were placed on Olympuses,  
And Zeus sat up there as a god  
With every human faults,  
Who could judge his wrongs  
As he lived to satisfy his own  
sexual lust.

Over my decades of sojourn  
in this age,  
I have discovered philosophy  
Holds a remedy to the malady  
of the age  
That man have come to loathe  
and hate.  
In search for truth  
Man could sit and think thru'  
That the true God is but a  
polysemic name,  
An embodiment of a higher love  
That has so eluded this age  
And the inhabitants of  
His world.

Efe Benjamin

# ' Water Maiden

O' water maiden!  
Nobly born of the sea  
In your world  
Nothing is used agaist thee  
And my song you do not heed  
Your world is imagination  
in my dream.  
O' wound me sea maiden  
Is my song to thee  
In your world  
Nothing is used against thee  
But my song shall be weapon to thee  
In your realm, my imagination,  
will I be  
For you are sea maiden  
My imagination in my dream  
In your world  
Nothing is used against thee  
But in your realm  
My song will be weapon  
to thee.

Efe Benjamin

# ' You

I can't help it;  
You're drowning  
in grimy pit.  
Parsons rants in pulpits  
Leaders lie with no limit  
I see them and I wonder

Will the world ever get  
better?

Efe Benjamin

# ' A Spinster At Mass

She came in dressed  
in the robe of a mayoress  
Her hair, curly and golden  
Like that of a Roman goddess  
She looked round  
Her eyes, large and round  
Like that of a fancy bulb.  
With them she me espied  
At a corner, under a deck  
of this unnamed Church.  
Behold, there's a Pandora  
at mass,  
As she passed;  
Not even the parson  
could bypass,  
He stood there like a dead  
wood and stared and stared  
Till his eye balls fell  
from its sockets  
We stared and stared  
And still we stood there  
and stared  
Till our piety fell.

Efe Benjamin



## ' Beautiful Miss (I Miss You)

Beautiful miss of my dreams  
You always refuse my love  
I want you to be my miss  
Cause for you I really miss.  
But you treat me bad miss  
What do you see  
When you look in my eyes  
I see love in your eyes  
Though I'm scared to stare.  
Your eyes so bright  
Shines like the rising sun  
Gave my life light.  
For long, so long  
I've been chasing after you  
Your love, so hard to find  
Your heart, so undefined.  
Why do you treat me bad miss?  
Remember I came to you  
Last night, and talked to you  
About love, my love for you  
That knows no bounds.  
I meant it miss, I meant it when  
I said I want you to be my miss.

Efe Benjamin

# ' Darling, When You'Re Close To Me

Darling, when you're close to me  
There is the inevitable smell of balsam  
Burning in my in my heart,  
Consuming my very being  
As you take me thru' dreams  
Of my sweetest fantasy  
And leaving me finally  
Waking up to a painful reality.

Efe Benjamin

# ' Death Alone

Death alone kills off the warmth  
To be or not to be without love.  
Death alone has turned the coldest  
Of all hearts toward a maker, a God.  
Death alone has brought even the mightiest  
To knees in agony and mourning.  
Death alone, the root of all fears  
That encompasses all hearts even the bravest.  
Death alone, it is death alone  
The bridge that stands between  
the shores of life and oblivion  
Death alone stands between the love  
We have built over time.  
Death alone, it is death alone  
The bridge that stands between  
You and me, it is death alone.

Efe Benjamin

# ' Everything Fades Into Nothing

When your eyes are close for eternity  
And you realise your life was only a dream  
Everything fades into nothing  
As if everything that exists  
Are things that never once exist.

When you lead a whole life of sin  
Chasing always only after vanities  
Everything fades into nothing  
As if everything that once exists  
Are things that never did exist.

When you realise your whole life  
is but materialistic  
Everything fades into nothing  
As if everything that exists  
Are things that never had exist.

Just because everything fades into nothing  
And you realise a life without Christ is empty  
You begin to drowse into a world full of meaning  
Just because God did create you for a reason  
Everything begins to fade into something.

Efe Benjamin

## ' I Hid My Love

I hid my love  
At the shore  
Where Kharon  
Ferries shades  
As they fades  
To worlds  
That is under  
Where I had  
Hidden my love.

Efe Benjamin

## ' I Know What Pain Is

I have been through the janus gate  
waited over nights and noons of my gloom  
i have sought a peak to my own fate  
tho' this way may seem not best to take  
but I have waited long in this gloomy room  
and beyond the gate my boon have lain in wait.

Efe Benjamin

## ' I Will Wait

I will wait  
Like a prisoner  
Behind the corrugated bar  
Where your love had imprisoned me  
I will wait, for a day  
When maybe you need me  
Perhaps you may release me  
And take me along this journey  
Which is now my fantasy  
I will wait, for a day, for my turn  
Behind the tomb  
Where Romeo died for love.  
I will wait, for a day, for a year  
But I will not be impatient  
For if Romeo had waited  
Perhaps he may live happy with Juliet.  
And when the drama was ended  
It was a sad ending  
But I am still here waiting  
And I will wait, for a year, for an age

My love never will fade.                                      And because my love is true.  
I will wait, yes, I will wait for you.

Efe Benjamin

# ' Love Is Like A Firefly

My love is like a firefly  
In a night of Hades  
But you are as safe as an angel  
Is safe in the ethereal haven  
Where the Almighty oversees all.

Efe Benjamin



# ' Senryu, Your Mystery (For Sandra Midas)

Senryu, your mystery haunts my nights  
Like black history  
Africa's taste of bitter slavery.

Senryu, your eyes  
Are like a knife plunged thru' the heart  
Bleed pains of my strife.

Senryu, for love  
I go thru' ends of your world  
To find hurt in return.

Senryu, my song for you water maiden  
See you dance the limbo of my sins  
In an eternity of man's slavery.

Senryu, I found you  
By the shores Kharon ferries shades  
Where you had hidden your love.

Efe Benjamin

# ' Time

Long ago when all was nothing but void  
There exists time over untold centuries  
Ancestors, beliefs defying normalcy  
When from void was born love.

.

Modern man who sit in ponder to call a myth  
With too many religions intending deceit  
Love of a perfect God eluding understanding  
Time to be born, time to die, time forever lives.

.

On many a day in thought have I lost my time  
All is made to die that lives  
Will I get a second time at life  
To be all that is good, all that is right.

.

In vain your efforts wasted  
In strife to look beyond all that is ahead  
Must I cry for a thousand years  
To shoulder falling tears of mine.

.

Must I run a thousand miles  
To out-run fast pacing hatred in heart of man  
Must I kill the God in my heart  
To join in the train of satan's company.

.

But now and again I hear a voice ponder in mind  
And he said 'Think'  
Because you have broken my law  
Because you that is man stand on all that is wrong.

Efe Benjamin

## ' Welcoming The Wonder Of Love (For Ruth)

I remember the light  
As I look in the sky  
The one she gave to my life  
Shines so bright like the star  
Illuminates every dark of mine  
As I look in her eyes  
I remember the wonder of love.

.  
Then I remember her smile  
The sparks of butterflies  
In wonder I struck in awe  
As I see in quiver  
The arrows of eros  
Making straight for my heart  
And I knew from the start  
This must be the wonder of love.

.  
This song of my heart  
Soothing this burning desire  
And I see her confined  
Right here in my heart  
I could write her a thousand poems  
Yet this feeling could I define  
And I knew at the start  
This is another wonder of love.

.  
Yes I remember my hurt  
When every dawn we  
will have to end the call  
Goodbye is not for my love  
And I knew how it feels  
To have this wonder of love.

.  
Not too long ago I felt  
She used to have qualms and fret  
As she pondered in her head  
Could there be love on the net  
But in her heart she had known  
It is only a wonder of love.

Efe Benjamin

## No Problem Said The Patriot

No problem said the patriot  
Today we shall sing a new song  
In pulpits men of God  
Rants like parrots  
Exorcising unseen demons  
Using in vain the name of God  
It is such shame  
Church has gone astray  
Pastors more like magicians  
Go to Satan for powers  
And they are holier than thou  
The sick must be healed  
Politicians must win  
But blessings are not for free  
Brother can you pay the fee?

.  
But no problem said the patriot  
It is now time we sing a new song  
I have seen men in politics  
Swimming in grimy pit  
And they come beckoning to me  
Extending dirty hands for a shake  
And when I declined in disgust  
They said man we are sorry  
We shall go now and wash up  
We bring to you salvation.

.  
But no problem said the patriot  
Tomorrow Africa shall sing a new song  
Of slavery, suffering, bad leadership  
Gone and bygone  
Yes, no problem said the patriot.

Efe Benjamin

## ` And I Love Her

I thought  
We were equal,  
Magdalene and I  
With the same years  
devoured,  
From friends  
To best friends,  
A common bond  
In being closer,  
And closer,  
And I love her;  
From friends  
To lovers,  
And I love her,  
I love her.

Efe Benjamin

## ` Don'T Leave Without A Kiss

Please don't leave without a kiss;  
I want to plant it on your lips.  
My arms around your hip;  
O' my love can you feel the heat?  
Let's talk about our kids;  
Just don't be in haste to leave.  
Let's fix for us a date;  
I promise I won't be late.  
Let's build for us a home;  
We can have all we could hope.  
Let's plan together our future;  
My love for you is so pure.  
Let me show you a paradise;  
I want it to be a surprise.  
Forever will I be by your side;  
Whatever it takes I'll pay the price.

Efe Benjamin

# ` He Did Not Want His Daughter To Dance With Me

Love is but a shadow  
The shades in Hades  
Seeks to be redeemed  
But the ever watchful  
Eyes of Cerberus is ever ready  
Who could escape his ferocity?  
I had never asked to be in love  
Or in turn be loved by this  
girl I saw,  
But Eros had struck me a arrow,  
I could feel its sting deep down  
my marrow,  
And my love had turned into  
something more of a sorrow.  
Love should be reciprocal  
No one should break a heart,  
In love with me your daughter  
had been,  
If you really love her, you should  
let her be.

Efe Benjamin



## ` Parents Are Not Payable

Listen, dear brothers, sisters,  
Look back in nostalgia;  
Think about dear mother,  
dear father,  
The ones who gave life to you  
And taught you how to be  
a man, a woman too;  
Your mother who suckled you  
Nine months she bore you  
in her womb;  
From his own sweat your  
father paid for your school  
And made sure your belly is  
never emptied with food.  
Think about them in  
everything you do.  
For some day you will be  
a father, a mother too  
And your children will think  
of you in everything  
they do  
They will think of the  
troubles you passed through  
To help them pull through.  
PARENTS can never be repaid  
No matter the wealth you  
may have attained.  
Parents are not payable,  
You just have to make them  
comfortable,  
And that would be enough  
for their troubles.

Efe Benjamin

## Siamese Twin

My love, my siamese twin  
I see you seated there by  
that tree.  
I love you, are you still free?  
Like long ago we used to bite  
and kiss  
Now for your love, hundreds of  
me plead;  
Real love is inseparable,  
As sweet memories are  
unforgettable.  
Comes a thunderbolt  
from Jupiter  
Meaning to cut us asunder  
I will follow you anywhere  
even to yonder.  
My love you don't need to  
wonder,  
Love grows even stronger.  
Like tide of the sea  
I shall bring down Odysseus' ship  
And keep you from shammed  
love and deceit.  
My love, it is so real  
Take it, it's yours, I offer you;  
There can't be another so true.  
I rhyme not for sake of rhyme  
I only wish to make you smile.  
Hope I impressed you with  
these few lines of mine:  
My love poems I give to you  
They are my dreams and my  
fantasy too.

My love, my siamese twin;  
I love you, do you love me too?  
Like long ago we played  
by the pool.

Sweet memories are hard to lose.

Efe Benjamin

# ` Song Of Ilium

Do not search for rhyme in my lines  
I only wish to get you enticed  
Take you on a roller coaster ride  
To the world Greeks created.

.

Imagination and tongue  
Made earth and gods from void  
Blood eyed erinyes, chaos  
Hades judging Minoses  
Serpodon, Rhadamanthus  
Jupiter and Hera  
Lust and jealousy  
A god of frivolity  
Athena a betrayer  
Troy needed no Palladium  
Aphrodite a Panderer  
Paris a rash jury.

.

Yet you call me an epigone  
Just because I read Hesiod's  
Theogony  
I love Ajax the greater  
Achilis killed Hector  
in Homer's Iliad.  
We sang the song of Ilium  
Only to make Zeus  
a supreme god  
Titans break free  
From Tartarus  
And made war upon  
The world mythology created.

.

I am also a derilious poet  
I write out pains and more in my head  
Poetry with no theme nor point  
I have kept them all in a stead.

.

But there is something yet about me  
I never get along well with politics

Do you know there may be  
no need for the police  
If the world was a paradise  
Christ would rule with His love  
and sacrifice.

.

I have gone to a world of unbelief  
We worship a God we yet do not see  
But if Christianity is right  
Christ will eventually end the strife.

Efe Benjamin

# ` The Story Of David The Lunatic

David the lunatic  
Had a son whom  
They named Steven  
No home they slept  
Under a canopy.  
The wife Caroline  
Left one morning  
Leaving Steven  
On the balcony  
Fate had a way Steven  
Never fell sick.  
David's dad had a  
Thing with polygamy.  
Steven grew up  
A man and joined  
The seminary.

Efe Benjamin

## ` We Should Live In Allah's Sight

At the hour of dim night light  
The gloom of a lacking father, of mother  
And children reeling in hunger, and anger  
The clarion call of pious worshippers  
Vividly heard also from the background  
May we live in Allah's sight;  
His world and love always tickles  
In my mind, confounded.  
Outside the banking gates, beggars  
Lurk around  
Begging always for the helping hand.  
The woman with disease, bedridden in pains  
With only hope to die sooner than tomorrow.  
Its a world of love, religion and God  
We live in His sight, and mercy  
His kingdom and world is without ending  
But ours come and go like weather  
When I sleep, in wonder, I ponder  
Will it ever get better?

Efe Benjamin

## ` What It Was

It was like the break of  
dawn;  
The coming of the sun;  
The darkness of the night;  
Which blinded my sight.  
I still needed that light  
To brighten my path,  
Along dead journeys of  
the heart,  
Two angels singing  
Antiphony of praises  
Lord, may you reign  
for ages  
Your kingdom shall  
know no ending.  
Your world is of serenity  
No hate, no war, no  
suffering.  
But ours is of complexity  
I still find my self confounded  
Maybe I need more to be  
educated.  
For the heart of man, your love  
has so eluded.

Efe Benjamin



## ` Don't Sympathize

Why I detest sympathy  
It revives hurtful memories  
Those days that are sad,  
Let them go with my past.  
Don't remind me of my misery  
They are now my history  
Those friends I have hurt  
I am human, I was only wrong.

Efe Benjamin

## ` Epigone

I am not an epigone  
Tho' I read Hesiod's Theogony.

I love Ajax the greater,  
Tho' I was not named  
In Homer's Iliad.

I love Dante Alighieri,  
If not for his comedy  
Why should I tease Jami?

How could I forget Taban,  
If he is just another Caliban.

If I dare ignore Soyinka,  
Perhaps today another  
man may die.

Dear uncle J.P  
Yes, you should be a Clark.

We need another Agbor  
dancer,  
To end this drama of ours.

Efe Benjamin

## ` Modern Girls

I asked for a love my own  
You come shooting me  
a arrow.  
I pray for the day I die  
To find love on the other  
side.  
When lovers die by love's  
alter,  
Angels songs will falter.  
They say: Will love ever  
get better?  
Then you un-arguably said,  
Keeping all in dis-contentment  
As they said love is blind;  
And I feared to lose my  
sight.  
All I want is a love of mine,  
But there you come again,  
With your irresistible charm  
Blinding me with your  
glamour and sham.  
The moon falling on me,  
There are things I had  
hoped to be,  
But you come stealing  
away my dreams.  
There is no love without  
means.  
These modern day girls  
would say;  
We'll steal your heart away.  
Then I try to get away  
But now I am blind I can't  
find my way.  
And you come brutalising  
my heart like a savage,  
And dumping me finally  
On a garbage.



## ` She Decides To Die

She decides to die  
Every time she closed her eyes  
She stared death in the eyes  
So she decides to die  
As she walks on the lagoon slime  
Everywhere she goes is grime  
And she can't get a life  
Lest she puts up a fight  
And she decides to die  
As she can't kill out the time  
Everyday in life is strife  
Her life as empty as the sky  
So she decides to die  
When she realised she can't  
win the fight  
She decides to die  
But I missed the way she smiled  
How she walked and stride  
I once felt she loved me inside  
Yet she decides to die  
She decides to die.

Efe Benjamin

## ` Valentine (For Ruth Ugbang)

My world, my loving Ruth  
Tomorrow I heard will be valentine  
Can you look beyond, over time  
I see stars of love wearing on your look  
The serene world of angels, and God  
Of butterflies, adorning your world, my world  
With songs of love and more,  
Like birds  
flying high in sky  
I see you and me soar over times height  
Like a Typhon of a Greek imagination  
And gods with goddesses  
so imperfect in nature  
I also did you wrong.

.

My Ruth, my loving world  
Today I heard is valentine  
I see the fires of love, burning  
In your eyes  
And my world is whirling like a seas tide  
Will you take me now, in your world  
And love me once more, like you did before  
For like a world of a Roman imagination  
And gods with goddesses so imperfect in nature  
I had also done you wrong.

Efe Benjamin

## ` a Sonnet Of Fantasy

In my heart, your eyes flashes in my dark,  
And in my dark, you capture my own heart.  
I see your soul wandered to worlds unknown,  
And caught me so broken in my own home.  
I don't drowse nor slumber without seeing you,  
And you have become my fantasy too.  
I could stare at your eyes a million years,  
And go with you anywhere, even Hell.  
I would like to write you a thousand poems,  
For you are my all, my only, my best.  
I would love to marry you tomorrow,  
And drain away every of your sorrow.  
Wish if I could lie beside you every night,  
And end this fantasy and dream of mine.

Efe Benjamin

## `all Seasons Shall Be Sweet

And all seasons shall be sweet,  
Like fruits from the big fig tree.  
And all lands shall be free,  
Like birds flying high and free.  
Searching between you and me,  
Sins eating deep in between.  
Disturbing calmness of the sea,  
You look with inner eyes and see,  
It is more to it than it seem,  
They are the dreams; the fantasies;  
And heritage left for posterity.

Efe Benjamin



## ` april

By the moon of april  
We sat by fire and pray  
Hoping for a day  
We meet at the gate  
Where sins shall be  
Washed away.  
The son sitting  
By His right hand  
At the gate  
To judge all wrongs  
The weaknesses of  
Human faults  
And wicked ones  
Shall be cut off.  
Lord this day  
have I prayed  
Make of me a sage  
May my days  
Never go to waste  
May the love of  
your creation  
Manifest in my  
disposition.

Efe Benjamin

## `can I Forget You (For Ruth Ugbang)

When my final page is turned  
And sun don't shine no more  
When day and night never come to end  
And tears no more will I shed  
Can I forget you?  
Like froths from morning dew  
The sunshine of coming noon  
The end of every book  
Will I think of you?

Efe Benjamin

## `conviction

You look in the mirror  
and say you are ugly;  
And you go out everyday  
looking really angry.  
God does not judge  
by outward appearance;  
You should have a little  
room for forbearance.

Efe Benjamin

# `death Is A Passageway

Looking beyond shadows of earth's emptiness  
And serenity of Gods holiness  
Death is but a passageway of man's furtive mystery  
The rest is made history to which his mind blinded  
In all eternity.

Efe Benjamin

# `everyone Wants Happiness

Everyone wants happiness  
But friend do you share  
A little kindness  
I see it in your eyes  
Every time you pass me by  
The self contentment  
Of devilish ill gotten wealth  
The painless smile of hell's certainty  
A fair share of impending posterity

So everyone wants happiness  
But brother do you ever care a little sadness.

Efe Benjamin

## `fantasies

Do not tell me friend  
How you found your  
Love dead  
Looking into your eyes  
I can tell you're yearning  
For the world far beyond  
My height  
But I know too, fantasies  
May come to reality.  
You just keep dreaming  
And I'll be here watching.  
It's my philosophy.

Efe Benjamin

## `for Esther

How I loved Esther  
She is my beautiful eagle  
But she doesn't find time  
for us to mingle.  
Not even on easter.  
Everyday I think of her  
She is just a heart breaker  
She stole away my heart  
But I still want Esther.

Efe Benjamin

## `for Ruth Ugbang

Your eyes, like stars of sky  
illuminates my darkest of nights  
giving light to tartarian gloom  
of my heart.

i found you, by the shore  
where charon ferries shades,  
they fades, to worlds that  
is under  
where I had hidden my love.

Efe Benjamin



## `forlorn

and here i am abandoned  
my love she's gone  
a world of oblivion  
for long, so long  
have i wandered in forlorn  
so decayed my tears and blood  
a world without love

Efe Benjamin

# `god Bless The Queen [two Songs]

## I

God bless the Queen,  
In her golden crown of reed.  
Let not thy sins be seen,  
Take it up to Christ and be freed.

## II

So glad I have been to England,  
A dream of every lad on this land.  
Africa, the road to us seems so far,  
But I shut my eyes and see our promised land.

Efe Benjamin

# Hang On Your Love

Hang on your love, my love  
The true one I know  
Comes from above, from God.

Efe Benjamin

## `i Am Not Jealous (For Ruth Ugbang)

i am not jealous  
of your love;  
for your love  
is like a torn  
In my heart  
like a fire  
and a spark  
burning my desire.  
in my home  
you give me hope  
now I can cope  
in this world  
without love  
and I am not  
jealous  
tho' you sing  
a new song  
to a new one  
but I am not  
jealous  
because  
you thought  
me to love  
in this world  
without love  
so I am not  
jealous  
and I will not  
be jealous  
because  
your song  
is for love  
you are all  
i have longed  
so I am not  
jealous.  
my love, my faith  
i have been  
in the rain,

please kill  
out the rage  
your love  
is no  
option  
fate  
defines  
our days  
so you will not  
be jealous  
because I am not  
jealous  
i am not  
jealous

Efe Benjamin

## `i Dreamt (For Ruth Ugbang)

I dreamt, I saw a light, in your eyes  
Like a spark, glittering in my mind  
Like a song, of my heart, for love  
My love, your love, home of hurt  
I know, from my heart, in your heart  
My love and yours, like a spark  
To light up the world, our world  
God, religion, and love, our song.

Efe Benjamin

# `joan Of Ark

Joan of Arc

I had not been told much about you,  
But I know how much the world  
can be so cruel.  
Thousands you had conquered with  
the rage of your lance,  
Warfare should not be something  
of an art,  
But then I had felt the love of God  
in your heart.  
Like a witch you were bound  
and burnt at the stake  
But today in our hearts you live  
as a saint,  
Let not the world you strove to create  
be forgotten,  
As our sins we pray and hope to be  
forgiven.

Efe Benjamin

## `lagos Island [the Fighters]

Another day on lagos Island  
Two boys fighting on their  
Local dryland.  
I wondered who started the  
Conflict still,  
But there they were entwined  
in each others grip,  
Out from blue comes a man  
With a horse's whip;  
Struggled to pull his way  
Through the audience' stare  
As he came, in awe, the  
Audience' glare;  
And two fighters took to  
their heels, and fled.

Efe Benjamin



## `lagos Island [two Girls]

One day on Lagos Island  
I drove passed  
two girls on the  
coastland.  
As they freeze  
From the heat of  
The cold winter.  
They beckoned  
On me as I drove  
past in speed on  
the bridge  
of their local mainland.  
I freezed;  
Parked and  
Comes out to see  
What it could be;  
Then two girls  
I see;  
Staring intensely  
At me,  
They said: you see,  
Are you really free  
I asked: why do  
you ask me  
I've been dariving  
By the sea;  
And you see  
It takes time  
To come out this  
Bridge.  
And my kids;  
Have been waiting  
for me.  
Well, you see;  
They proceed  
To say what they  
Mean:  
We have come a long  
way by the sea,

It's so cold out  
here  
on the bridge;  
The flood drove  
us out with natural  
Authority,  
Could you take  
Us in as refugee.

Efe Benjamin

## `lagos Island [the Governor]

Yet another day on Lagos Island,  
Met the governor busy at his  
Gardened secretariat.  
There he was, frenzied and smiling  
At the jokes his sycophants  
where telling;  
Sir, we have made a new budget  
We can now pay for a private jet.  
Men in politics should live happy  
and big  
And sir, your excellency sir, should not be an exception to it.  
Forget the citizens they will never see,  
We shall keep them in dark  
As we plant more flowers all around.

Efe Benjamin

## `limerick [bernard]

There was a drunkard named Bernard  
One day he scampered home like a leopard  
Angry, the wife screamed: you are drunk!  
Hiccupping, he said: I am your husband John,  
The son hissed and said: I think he is mad.

Efe Benjamin

## `limerick [bully And Me]

Once upon a time when I was in primary two,  
Mother had a daughter who attended our class too.  
She fell in love with Bill the bully,  
And I said she's so silly.  
One day bully and me fought and fell in chicken coop.

Efe Benjamin

## `limerick [for The Queen]

My dad had just returned from England  
He said the Queen laughs she's never sad  
Lives in a fortress,  
She's never had a distress,  
Rules her subjects including her husband.

Efe Benjamin

## `love Is Divine

Cupid O Cupid,  
Hunting all day long;  
Bring me a love,  
Wise or stupid;  
Beautiful or ugly;  
Love covereth all.  
My love is divine;  
One of a kind,  
It covereth  
All the imperfections  
In your life, in my life  
Let us love forever  
This love is divine.

Efe Benjamin

## `mr. Fred

I loved mr. Fred  
He was my friend  
But was taken from me  
Death took him from me  
I dont have anymore to say  
The poem ends.  
There is nothing left to say  
I loved my friend  
His name was mr. Fred  
He went away from me  
How I wished him to stay.

Efe Benjamin



# ` nollywood

A hot sunny day in my  
neighbourhood;  
Saw a troop of stars falling  
down from Nollywood.  
They were cladded in  
golden gowns and jewelries,  
Enough to take us off our  
penuries.  
Like share a owner in Fedex  
Iyke flaunted to me his  
golden rolex  
Then he said to me:  
Have you ever seen me on  
the screen?  
I did dope, I smoked hemp  
They said I was sick in the  
head.  
I was the husband who  
threw Jenevieve off the  
stairs.  
Now can you recall?  
I also ravished Oge on the floor  
Dad sent me to America,  
But I lavished his dollars.

The movies is such a sweet  
World to be;  
I wish it wasn't a fantasy  
or a dream.

Efe Benjamin

## ` please Send Me Someone To Love

Please send me someone to love;  
I have searched all around the world  
For a love to call my own  
Yet love seem so far from my home  
As I walk through the darkest of nights  
Wondering will I ever find the light  
There are times and times  
I sit and pondered my life  
Life is so fraught with strife.  
But please send me someone to love  
I have waited here for so long  
And if that be too much  
For my thoughts  
I shall sing yet another song;  
Of God, His son; Christ, and love  
Of angels with mind that are evil  
Falling long ago from Heaven.

Efe Benjamin

## `poem Of The Day

Poem of the day;  
I write one everyday,  
It speaks all I have  
to say,  
I say you hate  
to be bound in chains  
I say you hate  
to be taken a slave.  
But why do we hate  
When the world  
belong to us anyway.  
Why do we feel shamed  
When we fail  
Along the way?  
Why is it so difficult  
To pick ourselves up  
And give it a try again?  
Why do we say,  
we love and  
worship God  
When we do not  
show love  
to our neighbour?  
These and more  
Are left unanswered  
And leaves such pains  
in my heart.  
Then to feel ok  
I write out  
my pains everyday.  
And this is my  
poem of the day.

Efe Benjamin

## `police Is Your Friend

The police is your friend,  
They will tell you in Nigeria  
Though they never spare the naira  
When you are caught in their lair.

Efe Benjamin

## `senryu, Your Mystery (For Sandra Midas)

Senryu, your mystery haunts my nights  
Like black history,  
Africa's taste of bitter slavery.

Senryu, your eyes  
Are like a knife plunged thru' the heart  
Bleed pains of my strife.

Senryu, for love  
i go thru' length of your world  
To find hurt in return.

Senryu, my song for water maidens  
See them dance the limbo of my sins  
In an eternity of man's slavery

Efe Benjamin

## `she Hid Her Love (For Ruth Ugbang)

I

I hid my love  
At the shore  
Where Charon  
Ferries shades  
As they fade  
To the world  
That is under  
It is not to  
Be found  
Till my heart  
Love no more  
Confound.

II

She hid her love  
My love  
In a box  
Where Pandora  
Hid her evil  
Her gift from Heaven.

I searched for love  
My love  
All over the world  
But found none  
Then in my hurt  
I stumbled upon  
Something wrong  
A box  
Pandora's box.

In my curiosity  
I opened the lid  
To have a peek  
Hoping to get  
A kiss  
As I seek  
To find a love

My love  
But yet got none  
Instead her evil  
Was let loose.

That was her gift  
From Heaven.

### III

Your eyes, like stars of sky  
Illuminates my darkest of nights  
Giving light to tartarian gloom  
Of my heart.  
I found you, by the shore  
Where Charon ferries shades,  
They fades, to worlds that  
Is under  
Where I had hidden my love.

Efe Benjamin

## `she's Gone

Finally she's gone,  
Like an umbilical cord  
When a child is born.  
Scornfully she looked  
at me;  
Her eyes running down  
from head to my feet,  
Words she had wanted  
to say  
Seemed to die in her  
own rage.  
Finally I found words  
and said:  
Is your love really dead?  
Yes, she turned and said:  
And you should get out  
of my head!  
Ok, I've heard, very well,  
I said;  
And left without a fret,  
To a pub nearby to  
buy a beer.  
One, two, three bottles  
of beer  
Would make me drunk,  
In that liquor I had  
myself sunk.  
Then for home I left with  
a song in my mouth.  
As I sang, I staggered  
and sang:  
That I knew her love  
had been a sham;  
Lord please bring me a love  
that will bring me no hurt.  
For the love You give I  
know is best of all.





## `singing Love

Singing for love  
Every time you look up  
Birds chirping in love's delight  
Is made for your own design  
I love you, you love me  
And love for a world  
Spinning like a hell's tide  
Like the woman, pregnant,  
Who just let out the child  
Un-bountiful joy reeling in the mind.

Efe Benjamin

## `the Prostitute [ I Desired Her ]

At night she hawks;  
Her pride hidden  
Between her thighs.  
And I desire her.

.

At corners of  
red-light districts;  
Her comrdses,  
together with her,  
Flaunting their wares,  
Caught my eyes.  
And I desire her.

.

Till dawn, she  
Does her trade,  
Giving to every me,  
Ready to buy,  
The forbidden fruit,

.

And I desire her,  
I desire her.

Efe Benjamin

# `the Virgin

The virgin,  
Like unused engine,  
Caught my eyes,  
Intruded my heart  
Into my house  
And broke my heart.

.

No! not the girl  
I thought I saw.  
Not the one I caught  
Not the one that  
Fed me with sand.

.

For although she  
Had a husband  
She told me she  
Was a virgin,  
- a maiden.

Efe Benjamin

# `this Is Your Life

This is your life  
Your life in my life,  
So sweet  
I do not think of you,  
I dream of you  
In my dreams, so real  
I just close my eyes  
and be with you.  
And my love for you  
So true, I cant fall  
In love anymore.  
This is your life,  
Your life in my life  
An uncommon bond  
Of divine.

Efe Benjamin

## `to Be With Me (If I Die)

If I die;  
And leave you broken  
The sadness in your eyes  
From memories of you and me  
They will come now and often  
And journey you back in time  
Because I was taken with the tide  
Like death will lurk by your side  
The love of you and me  
Will journey you here, over time  
To finally be with me.

Efe Benjamin

## `to My Academic Friends

To my academic friends  
Who left with me,  
.  
They walk in the wells,  
-in the rigs  
-they sings  
They control wealth;  
But they forget young poets  
.  
Like me.

Efe Benjamin

## `true Love

For those unlucky in love  
In your feelin' of sadness  
and forlon,  
Love songs will always be  
wrong  
That feelin' of dejection in  
your hurt;  
Courtship and your the period  
of friendship,  
The feelin' you can't survive  
without that companionship  
Had been created for a reason.  
Until the true meaning is found  
Your heart, love will always  
confound.  
The feelin' of love in itself  
is deception.  
You cry, and you feel you  
will die in your moment  
of rejection.  
True love is found in the divine  
The truth is not so hard to find  
It had been created for our  
own design.

Efe Benjamin



## `unwritten

I have also had my  
Poems unwritten.  
Like a friend whom  
So much I admire.  
Had in her  
A burning desire.  
A love unforseen  
For many yet  
unseen.  
Now my friend  
Had her poems  
written.  
But still I know  
more  
Her thoughts  
Are yet unwritten.

Efe Benjamin

## `your Smile

What could be nicer  
Than charm of  
your smile  
And you make  
My life brighter.  
On that day  
By the river  
Where butterflies  
Go to play  
By the bank we  
Sat and pray  
Lord, may our  
Love last forever.

Efe Benjamin

# A New Life

The midwife  
Together with my wife  
Strove to bring us a life  
(A new life)  
To care for our lives  
After our strife.

Efe Benjamin

# A Rhyme Of Lagos

Lagos, City of the idle  
Here I come, to join  
in this struggle,  
Tho' you pretend to be busy  
But life here isn't easy,  
A decade is long enough  
time to be away from home  
But here in lagos, I still  
find hope.

Efe Benjamin

# A Song Of Wrong [ You Laughed And Laughed And Laughed ]

In your eyes  
My song is one of wrong  
Intruding into your heart  
And you laughed and  
Laughed and laughed.

.

In your heart, you knew  
I could be there,  
Cause you brought me here.  
And you laughed and  
Laughed and laughed.

.

In your soul,  
You knew I want you  
In my home.  
'cause you brought me hope.  
And you laughed and  
Laughed and laughed.

.

You laughed at my wrong  
You laughed at my right.  
You laughed over  
Everything I do.

.

And now, my love I give to you  
But you shut your eyes and  
Laughed and laughed  
And laughed.

.

You laughed at my walk  
You laughed at my song.

.

You walked your walk  
Into my life of wrong  
Knowing all along  
You could change me in all.

.

But you shot your heart  
To my love  
And you walked away from  
My heart, and you laughed  
And laughed and laughed.

Efe Benjamin

# Afraid Of Dying

Im tired of living  
but im afraid of dying  
'Cause I dont know my fate  
I dont know what awaits  
Me up there in the sky.  
I pray for a day  
someone who has been there  
Before will return to tell  
Me what awaits me up there  
But in all I know living  
The right life will make all the  
difference.

Efe Benjamin

# Africa Of My Dream

Africa, my Africa of my dream  
Here is where I want to be  
And here I have always been,  
At my end, here is where I will sleep.  
Africa, I have been away for so long  
Please don't cry for me dear mother  
Twenty years is a long time to be  
Away from home,  
But I am still here, my one home  
My Africa, my Africa of my dream  
Many are leaving, leaving for America,  
But I am still here and here  
Is where I will always be,  
My Africa is my America.  
We are working towards that,  
A better Africa, a great Africa!  
This is Africa of my dream,  
My Africa is my America.

Efe Benjamin



# Death Is Hanging On A Loom

Death is hanging on a loom  
My ship is set sail a quest  
No boon, no time for rest  
Life leaning on a strife till every noon  
Everyday, everywhere stare death in the eyes  
With every dangers of fire, water, and desires  
The inevitable certainty of diseases  
For a world as imperfect in nature  
And death is hanging on a loom  
Waiting every time for the one cut  
And there comes the inexplicable  
Journey of death's oblivion.

Efe Benjamin

# I Hid My Love (I)

I hid my love  
At the shore  
Where Kharon  
Ferries shades  
As they fades  
To the world  
That is under.  
It is not to  
Be found,  
Till my heart  
Love no longer  
Confound.

Efe Benjamin

# I Was Born In Hell And Fire

Black Jesus;  
Redeem my black soul  
I was born in hell and fire,  
Will you condemn me to another?  
If you knew my story,  
I'm sure you'd be sorry.  
A boy who knew no father,  
Just a hapless mother.  
How far could she go?  
With those burden left for her alone.  
Holy White Jesus,  
Will you hear my supplication?  
I was born in hell and fire,  
Will you condemn me to another?

Efe Benjamin

# Lagos

Running here and there  
Scampering for daily bread  
Between you and me  
Ills eating deep in between  
At the theatre the singing birds  
Girls dancing like hell and fire  
Lust of men and burning desires  
Beggars lurking at the banking  
gates  
Religious hypocrites with genuine  
hate  
Haramians burning at the  
Northern  
states  
Men in black now watch over the  
churches gates.

Efe Benjamin

# Naked

Naked I came  
And naked shall I return  
If it be the will of Allah  
That I go today  
Then let it not pass me by.

Efe Benjamin

# 'Please Let Me Get What I Want

PLEASE

Let me get what I want  
I thought I gave you what  
You asked.  
How long will you go on  
Living in my heart,  
If you won't even let me  
into yours?

.

My love is like the river that flows,  
And flows, to endless worlds,  
It never dries up,  
My love is like the birds in sky,  
As tender and sweet  
Like the songs they make.

.

PLEASE

Let me get what I want my love  
By now you should know  
What I want.  
I thought I told you I was in love.

Efe Benjamin

# Senryu, Your Eyes

Senryu, your eyes  
Like a knife, plunged through the heart  
Bleed pains of my strife

Efe Benjamin

# Senryu, Your Mystery (For Sandra Midas)

Senryu, your mystery haunts my nights  
Like black misery,  
Africa's taste of bitter slavery.

Efe Benjamin



# Senryu, Your Mystery (For Sandra Midas)

Senryu, your mystery haunts my nights  
Like black history,  
Africa's taste of bitter slavery.

Senryu, your eyes  
Are like a knife plunged thru' the heart  
Bleed pains of my strife.

Senryu, for love  
i go thru' length of your world  
To find hurt in return.

Senryu, my song for water maidens  
See them dance the limbo of my sins  
In an eternity of man's slavery

Efe Benjamin

# She Hid Her Love (In A Box)

She hid her love  
My love  
In a box  
Where Pandora  
Hid her evil  
Her gift from Heaven.

I searched for love  
My love  
All over the world  
But found none  
Then in my hurt  
I stumbled upon  
Something wrong.  
A box  
Pandora's box.

In my curiosity  
I opened the lid  
To have a peek  
Hoping I could  
Get a kiss  
As I seek  
To find a love  
My love  
But yet got none  
Instead her evil  
Was let loosed

That was he gift  
From Heaven.

Efe Benjamin

# She Laughed And Laughed And Laughed

I told her I was in love  
But she laughed and  
Laughed and laughed.  
I gave her my love  
But she did not give  
me hers,  
Instead, she kept mine  
And gave hers to another.  
She laughed at my song;  
She laughed at my walk,  
Then I danced my magic  
dance  
To the rhythm of the  
talking drums pleading  
But she shut her eyes  
And laughed and laughed  
And laughed.

Efe Benjamin

# So You Died

so you died!  
when i heard,  
i cried.

you were apple  
of my eyes,  
love of my life.

when you  
left my side  
i died.

i died  
when you died.

Efe Benjamin

# There Was A Lesbian Named Lizzy

There was a lesbian named Lizzy  
She said to find a mate is not so easy  
Too many fake gals around these days  
I rather be a vegetarian  
Find myself a good husband  
Have kids sons and daughters.

Efe Benjamin

# They Have Killed Their God (Haiku)

They have killed their God  
And so their God lie in state  
God live in my heart

Efe Benjamin

# Those Gods Are Children

In times of old  
Stories of long past heroes yet untold  
Ancestral gods, heroes, brave and bold  
Haunts deep my memory like Midas crave for gold.

And those gods are children, yes they are  
For when I take up my head in godly reverence  
Hoping to find a god smiling down my patience  
All I see the sky free, empty and bare

No gods, no lights, no rains to wash my tears  
And those gods are children, yes they are  
Thru' history have ancestors lived under shadows of those gods  
Blinded to deadly human suffering.

So I say those gods are children, yes they are  
From the day Christ was born in Nazareth  
Till the day that He was resurrect  
What wonders more is marvelous in our eyes.

And those gods are children, yes they are  
For when Christ healed the sick, raised the dead  
He gave all and asked for nothing more but love  
Give to the poor says Christ His world is love

But today can you see the poor are dying hungry  
Just because those gods are children, yes they are  
Christ, eternal Lord who rules in heavenly  
On earth Your kingdom yet is pending.

And now we know those gods were children, yes they were.

Efe Benjamin

# White Queen

So would I, to blood once again  
So would I  
To my white queen  
The stars have departed  
From her eyes  
So would I  
Sail to my black land once again  
To my brothers who must  
root again  
With black blood rejuvenating  
the ecstasy of a child  
Old and young, washed with the tide  
No, not my queen  
With star spume beaming in her eyes  
With blood, black and white  
In fits of rage  
To where dreams lie within dreams.  
It is Africa, home of plenty.  
Take me to the fields  
Where brothers have marched in deceit  
O' Africa, your banner of love is hoised  
Not again my love will I hurt  
For she is gone, my white queen  
And my song I sing anew  
To my brother, my sister in past rue.  
We have come to the field  
To cultivate this field green  
The field within our dreams  
Africa's dream.

Efe Benjamin



# 'Your Eyes

Your eyes;  
are like the  
stars  
of sky,  
illuminating my  
darkest of nights;  
giving light to  
tartarian gloom  
of my heart.  
i found you,  
by the shore  
where charon  
ferries shades;  
they fades,  
to worlds that  
is under,  
where i had  
hidden my love.

Efe Benjamin

# Your Life, My Life

Your life in days  
Love was prevalent  
My life in days  
Hate is a norm  
I wish I knew you  
All my life  
But then you came along  
And it was too late  
For I cannot love again  
I have given all  
My love out  
I gave my love  
To daughters of eve  
And I get in return  
Nothing but scorn  
Even from those  
I sacrificed my time,  
My money, my life  
And my everything.

Efe Benjamin