

POEMS FROM SOWETO

SOUTH AFRICA

By Phendulo

A beautiful country
Lovable and like me
This is South Africa

Rainbow colors
Black white green
Red and yellow
Afrikaans English Nguni South
Unite us
Make us proud
Let us build a nation

God Bless Africa
Let you Holy Spirit be with us
God Bless our families
God Bless our schools
God Bless our teachers
Give them strength to open our minds

God Bless our President
Let him lead our country
With love peace and happiness

A LOVING WOMAN

By Nyeleti

She is a loving woman
Caring brave
She has humanity
Dignified brave

Mother of the nation
Building on a rock
Healing where it hurts
A real loving woman

She is a woman
Her love is as hard
Harder than steel
But warmer than a heater

A loving woman
A comforter

A creator
Helping those in need
An inspiration to others
A born leader

What a loving woman
If you strike her
You feel like
You are striking a rock
U nga khomi vavasati va vanhu
She is a loving woman

LOVE

By Nyeleti

Love is a feeling
Love is an expression
Love is great
To have in life

Feeling happy
Being kind
Its all about love

Sharing with others
Those who don't have
It's all about love

Love joy and peace
Friendship is love
Beauty is love
Respect is love
Caring is love
Faithfulness is love

Do you have that kind of love?

HAPPINESS

By Nyeleti

I am happiness
I play music
I feel it's beat

I am positive
I love drama
Only if it's lovely

I am the happiest person in life
I give to others

They give back to me

I play skipping
I play soduko
I listen to jokes
I love jokes
I laugh
To show my happiness

MYSELF

Nyeleti
I am a girl
Brave and intelligent

With humanity and dignity
Obedient and protective

A born leader
An inspiration to others

Enthusiastic and reaching out
Diligent

I will make sure
I become a success

THINGS AROUND ME

By Nyeleti

All around
Beautiful flowers and trees
In all colors

People moving
Up and down
They irritate

Birds singing songs
Songs I cannot fathom
I try to communicate with them
But they fly away

People sitting and chatting
All I get is a smile
What is funny about me
When I look they laugh

Oh things around me!

FOOTSTEPS

By Nonhlanhla

I trace your footsteps
Trying to understand
All your deeds

I trace your footsteps to understand
Your cross
And your miracles

I trace your footsteps to understand
Why you let it be
When you could have saved yourself

I wonder
Why you became a fisherman

I see your special beauty
You shine brighter than the sun

Especially when you rest your feet
Or walk on the seas
The son of David!

WOMAN

By Phumzile

All I can say is
Mother creator
Ocean heart chest

Shield alone super
Woman!

THANK YOU

By Lerato
Thank you
You are the best
You are on our hearts
We will always remember you
Our hero our mother

Our superstar
Powerful comforter
Powerful love

Thank you
For creating a space for us
In your heart
You are our hope
You think for others

Today we are free
Because of you!

A FREE CAR RIDE

By Macebele

Give ear
To street kids
Singing songs

Getting money
From those who pass by
A free car ride
From north to south

Girls selling the bodies
For next to nothing
But when rains fall
They seem lost

GRANNY'S SONGS

By Macebele

Grandmothers singing
They sing beautiful songs
Full of memories
Strong and powerful
And honorable

Ladies and gentlemen
They are generous and full of grace
Their smiles and gazes
Are respected

Their friendship is like
Water to growing plants
Kids rejoice at them
They get nice goodies

TO MY MOTHER

By Mohau

Mother
Each time I look in your eyes
I realize you carried me in your womb
The feeling I get
Is that of love

You love, you share
You inspire unconditionally
When you return your love
It is too much

Thank you for being there
When I needed you most
Thank you for believing in me
Even when I doubted myself

For being the one person I can trust
No matter what
Thank you for being my mother
I am so proud to say
You are my mother

NOT BELONGING

By Snethemba

Not belonging to my family
Not belonging in my class
Having to rely on myself
Depending on myself

They talk on their own
I've got to express my own feelings
Because there is no one to turn to
As I do not belong

MY DREAMS

By Snethemba

My dreams tell my story
They are my storyteller
My head and my heart
They are my dream's character

They are the truth of my body
They talk out of my life
They give courage to express feelings

They talk through mind

BELIEVE IN YOURSELF

By Snethemba

Believing in yourself
Is the best you can do
Because if you don't
No one will

Everyone has special strength
Given by God
Who loves us all equally
And judges no one
Allow no one to judge you

Believe in yourself

LOVING A PERSON

By Sihle

Loving a person is something you know
Loving a person fills my heart
Loving a person is good
Loving a person is loving a person

Sing a song
Love a person
Love a person

It can be a friend you love
Someone you trust
A person you share your secrets with
Someone you remember

A friend who never lies to you
A friend you know
A friend who is in your heart
You love your friend
A friend is your life

LIFE CHANGES

By Sihle

People change
Life changes
Things change
I do not know what happened in Africa
We have to love one another
Oh Africa! Oh Africa!

I HATED IT

By Sihle

I hated it when I saw you
I hated it when I met you
I hated it when you said you liked me
I hated it when you said you miss me
I hated it when you said you care
I hated it because you left me

AFRICA

By Sihle

Africa! Africa!
You are so beautiful
You have love
Your people love you
Africa Africa
You change people
You change leaders
For good or bad
You know what you are doing

I HAVE A DREAM

By Sihle

I have a dream
A dream for love

I have a dream
A dream for Africa

I have a dream
A dream for peace and joy

I have a dream
A dream of happiness in Africa

I have a dream
That the African skies will bring it to pass

HOME SWEET HOME

By Wandile

Sweet oh sweet
I can wake anytime
Sleep anytime
Eat anytime
But know when to respect
Not be forced to do things
I was never taught before
Home sweet home

I live where I was born
I am protected from abuse
Taught to respect my body
And to improve my life
Not to mess with boys
But focus on my studies

Without a home you will never say
Home sweet home

LIFE AS CHILDREN

By Wandile

This is the message
To the children of the world
We are the best of them all
Our future is bright
We will be successful
Let the children of the world
Become children

MY DREAMS

By Wandile

I close my eyes and go to sleep
I see my own future
I love dreaming

I believe in dreams
They shape my life
They shape my future
And give me hope

I AM FREE

By Wandile

I am free
From the violence I have been through

I am free
From the anger I have been through

I am free
Because many martyrs died for my freedom

I am free
I did not have to hate a certain race

I forgive
I did not have to walk the path of race and anger

I am free indeed!

MY CHOICE

By Wandile

Walking down the street
People chatting
Whispering
Who is this?
It's my problem not theirs
It's my choice not theirs
I tell myself
It's my choice
The choice of love and life
