

I am mine

by Darlin Tessah

Even as I sit here,
I sit a human
Not less than you, man,
I sit as a capable woman,
Also able to woo man.

So, this is my proposal;
Do read it and take it as personal
As you would your own business.
I mind mine,
Do not undermine mine.

So, here we go:
Treat me with dignity and respect;
I deserve it simply because I am human,
Not because I should earn it with giveaways;
No! Not at all.
I am no promo nor a jackpot machine.

I see the way you look at me
With those lustful desires
Lurking in your eyes.
I see you salivate and crave
For me to be in your arms;
Oh, I see them all.

All you think about is
To get between my thighs
And desecrate this beautiful temple
With thrusts and spans.

But these desires are inconsiderate.
It is all about feeding your insatiable appetite
Such that you think my body is your entitlement;
Your title deed,
Like a building you bought with a price; no.

I will not be an amusement park
Where you take a walk and pack your balls,
What is it you want at all?
Leave me alone, please.

I will heal from this pain
And aches you have caused;
I will not succumb to thoughts
Of worthlessness and desolation.
Again, I will heal and recover;
Nothing shall hinder this comeback.

My body is mine, and all its features;
I own them.
These beautiful features of amazing artwork,
Carefully sculptured and crafted.
I am a piece of ingenious art, believe that;
A piece of well-knitted compositions.
This is not a superposition;
I am a masterpiece.

Born to Ghanaian parents, Gab-Darlin Mate-Teye (pen name: Darlin Tessah), was raised in Accra, Ghana. He attended Achimota Basic and St. Charles Minor Seminary Senior High schools. In year one of high school, Darlin's poem was shortlisted in the 'I Say No to Human Trafficking' National Essay Competition. He has a BSc. Computer Science from the Ghana Institute of Management and Public Administration.

A youth advocate with the Children and Youth in Broadcasting (Curious Minds), Darlin Tessah is also an author of a collection of poems titled, Cognitive Drama, launched October 2021. He is also a graduate of the Ghana Writers' Marathon, class of 2020 from which this book was birthed.

His writing borders on life experiences and challenges of the young adult and the fulfilment of potential.