



Honorable Mention

Nurted by Oyamo Richard (Richiepoet The Artist), Kenya

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Oyamo Richard is a student in the field of education, as well as a writer, published poet, spoken word artist, and currently serves as a peer counselor with the Kenyatta University Peer Counselors.

NURTED

"I Mr. Policeman,
I vow my allegiance to my country
To diligently serve every person"
That's the oath
That to me was passed on
I very well knew what law enforcement meant
Not to, bend the law and force abiding
I never knew
I will once find myself at crossroads
Having to choose between serving the citizens
Or the government of the day
There are days
I am ordered to shoot to kill
Injuring and killing people in the name of stray bullets
Incidents that my mind has refused to heal from

Due to these brutal instructions from my seniors
In a friendly way you citizens, I cannot see near
I have been taught,
To profile you who has dreadlocks
If I see you, I dread to lock you up
I have been nurtured
To understand that you only understand brutal language
I have been turned into a machinery by the, people you guys elected
The fish, begins rotting from the head.