



PHONE WITH FEATURES

Mufasa The Poet (Kenya)



The world is not the addition of all the countries
It is the ability of human beings to be in reach and
to reach out within and beyond borders.

Peace & Justice is the fabric mix that nationhood
wears at the states gala and steals the show.

I want to write poems that will plant thoughts about
planting trees then call those poems poetrees.

If we couldn't set the ocean on fire, we surely
exploded it with plastic.

Last night in the news, Amazon was burning, Mau
was falling, the rivers were leaving, the weather was
faulting
And it was our entire fault.

Where I come from, bottled water is the face
of clean water.
That means clogged waterways are another way
we pay the price.
That also means the safeness of water cannot
continue to exist only inside a bottle.

Life is a flight upstairs for people in wheelchairs.
Buildings where the stairway is the only way,
are expecting them to fly.

Skyscrapers in Nairobi do not mean development
for the country.

They are just good enough for Spider-Man to swing
from building to building but Spider-Man hasn't been
bit by a spider yet.

He is still a normal kid growing in Mathare where last
night when it rained, their house flooded with water.

Bad roads do not have the face of a monster
They cannot be used to scare children to sleep.
But they have made businesses disappear.

Farmers are searching for reasons why it is easy
for the country to import food at high prices
But difficult to buy food from local farmers
at good prices.
They have not found answers.
They will keep digging.

When the riot came from the people of Lamu,
It was to say coal cannot be the light at the end
of their tunnel.
In this age, it is a reintroduction to dark ages.

The people are not safe in a city where tap water
is not safe for the Governor to drink.

Yesterday, Muthoni Nyanjiru led a protest after the
arrest of Harry Thuku
And my history teachers forgot to mention her.
She asked the men to take her dress and give
her their trousers
But my textbooks forgot to mention that.

Any education is key.
But quality education gives you a bunch of keys.

In my country, public hospitals are those hospitals
our leaders visit when they are well
And refuse to go when they are unwell.

War has taught us to look at advanced weapons
as security.
Hunger is still trying to teach our governments how
to look at surplus food
As a way of beefing up our security.

The other day, I heard a stranger at a barbershop say
If his child dies with a hospital bill, he will not sell his
tiny piece of land to bring a dead body home
There might be no land left for burial.

For as long as young people choose to ignore
politics and leadership
the future will never be in our hands
What we will continue to have is a phone with
features.