



## I AM AN AFRICAN

By Wayne Visser

I am an African  
Not because I was born there  
But because my heart beats with Africa's  
I am an African  
Not because my skin is black  
But because my mind is engaged by Africa  
I am an African  
Not because I live on its soil  
But because my soul is at home in Africa

When Africa weeps for her children  
My cheeks are stained with tears  
When Africa honours her elders  
My head is bowed in respect  
When Africa mourns for her victims  
My hands are joined in prayer  
When Africa celebrates her triumphs  
My feet are alive with dancing

I am an African  
For her blue skies take my breath away  
And my hope for the future is bright  
I am an African  
For her people greet me as family  
And teach me the meaning of community  
I am an African  
For her wildness quenches my spirit  
And brings me closer to the source of life

When the music of Africa beats in the wind  
My blood pulses to its rhythm  
And I become the essence of sound  
When the colours of Africa dazzle in the sun  
My senses drink in its rainbow  
And I become the palette of nature





When the stories of Africa echo round the fire  
My feet walk in its pathways  
And I become the footprints of history

I am an African  
Because she is the cradle of our birth  
And nurtures an ancient wisdom

I am an African  
Because she lives in the world's shadow  
And bursts with a radiant luminosity

I am an African  
Because she is the land of tomorrow  
And I recognise her gifts as sacred

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