

## **Manisa Poesia**

**I am a black girl, curly hair, shiny black eyes, beauty that only I can see;**

**I am the strong and huge baobab that grows in the lands of the bright sun called Africa.**

**I am the voice that cries out in the immensity I CANNOT BREATHE!**

**I am the blood that pleads for freedom for two hundred and forty years.**

**I see an adventure book on the table, Nelson Mandela and his unusual escapes.**

**I see a cloudy sky, a sign that the rain is coming, bringing tranquility and hope from a reborn rainbow.**

**I hope that one day all children will have the opportunity to attend school.**

**I worry about the precarious situations that some children face around the world.**

**All children deserve a dignified childhood.**

**The most deadly disease is not AIDS, much less COVID-19, the most deadly disease is ignorance and a lack of empathy.**

**Come on, let's dance together with the sun and the land of the Sahara, because I am the partying Wakanda that vibrates and roars like a lion in the middle of the Savannah.**

**Leave "Hakuna Matata" behind because the matata has always existed, let's live "Sisi ni Sawa." (We are the same.)**

***by Manisa Mayele***