

# NOMANGUNGU

## **anella**

i say a prayer for you  
on butterfly wings  
may your worries be carried away  
to distant lands  
where none hold burdens heavy laden like yours.  
and may they send back peace  
like exiting an exhausting relationship  
hope like a text from a potential lover  
happiness like finding a random ten rand note  
inside a forgotten winter jacket  
hallelujah like the wonder of a newborn baby's wail  
and enchantment like twinkling sparks of a comet  
trailblazing the african sky  
colour is what you need,  
so i pray destiny places you a blank canvas  
that only your mind's scatterlings and desire can fill  
this i pray for you  
uncaring laughter of the old  
who have nothing more to fear  
excitement and that a clap-once attitude  
of market women  
gossiping in awe of what you will become

look, I'm writing this poem for you on the go  
as I head to the cascading landscapes of bulwer  
her green hills bear witness to barefooted children  
running to school on frosty winter mornings  
may your offspring wonder not inherit that poverty  
your untimely growth  
when your mother departed this universe  
orphans are heaven's lament song  
i don't know why god rejoices  
in the sorrow of children