JOYCE NSUBUGA

She Chose....

She chose......they said She chose.....he said She chose.....she said One and all, they asserted:

It's the one who mothered Five girls, one boy Her first — a girl To a soldier she handed For marriage, for life For notice did she He raped, he raked But her family he spared Though like all his kind Gun and bullets he had.

She chose.....they said She chose....he said She chose....she said One and all, they asserted:

It's the one who wept As a secret she whispered A refugee I am called My children to live I work, I earn
After the sun has slept
Men not man
Each night replace
Him I knew and lost
"Missing" he is called
This job I must keep
My children must live.

She chose......hey said She chose....he said She chose....she said One and all, they asserted:

It's the one who related While tears she shed Her daughter of sixteen A man she knew not To marry she was given For a reason mom told Her education we desired But the family together Afford would never The school fees required The rules of the country The family chose not Forbade higher education For them refugees.

He — the man had said If the girl in marriage

You give me to keep Education I will give In England she will live. But word has come My daughter he took He beats, he kicks Two kids she keeps Alone she weeps.

She chose.....they said She chose....he said She chose...she said One and all, they asserted:

It's the one I met
Five years ago she came
To "Bulaya" for study
Her dad had been
The chief, the rich
Her fees he sent
Her pockets always full
Until she heard
Nay — I forget
For a year ay two years
Nil had been sent
A cousin then wrote
This you must learn
Your father, your family
All of them were killed.

All alone and lost

She searched and found He from her country He will help he will assist For a month he responded He loved — was it love? He phoned T. and inquired A woman here I have For a time would you take? After T. It was J. After J. came P...... The list grew long For none of them cared.

She chose......they said She chose.....he said She chose.....she said One and all, they asserted:

I will tell what they chose
Each of them has told
The truth I will tell
A choice was made
The true choice was then
My God, my lord
The breath of death
Now should thou send
To me thy handmaid
At this my time
A happy person you receive.



