

# I am Kente

By Akila Monika Richards

Split yourself bright, grow millions of afro puffs, blooming a soft white on diaspora brow.

**Sacrifice.** -----

Grow yourself hollow, resilient tall, thousand flutes filled with one song, praise Nyame and bow.

-----**Unison.** -----

Feed these grinding teeth, sweat glands secrete, 1000 lengths of silken strength, spin soul to kin.

-----**Poetry.**-----

Strike the sun, green feather leaves, ochre your earth, weave Ashanti breath to life and connect.

-----**Creation.**-----

Akan this structure, cover forests to coast, strip by strip, sew people's hearts to landscape the art.

-----**Nation.**-----

Resemble jewelled eyes, reflect iridescent, serenely posses the joy under blue-black-brown skin.

-----**Humanity.**-----

Wrap me royally, fold ocean waves, crown the sky and glow into space, adorn the golden stool.

-----**Kente.**