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POEM:

WHEN THE DUST SETTLES DOWN

FOR ANGOLA: A SONG OF A COWARD

by

Tepilit Ole Saitoti

When the dust settles down and war cries cease
 When irregular winds of
 Messianic wars stop indefinitely
 and our continent peace restoration hold
 We will all go under a big tree and
 confer.

After sentimental tears are off our cheeks
 we will breath heavily and then

calm down

We will send a pilgrimage to holy places
 within our sacred shores.

We will go to Lumumba, Cabral and Nkrumah
 tombs with ever lasting flowers
 from Kilimanjaro Summit.

After all is done

we will summon our warriors

and give them an oath.

to promise us that what had
 happened never never to happen
 again

*Tepilit Ole Saitoti is an African scholar from Tanzania and
 has done graduate work at University of Michigan,
 Ann Arbor.*