



**INTERNATIONAL  
HUMAN  
RIGHTS ART  
MOVEMENT**



**AFRICAN HUMAN  
RIGHTS SPOKEN  
WORDS CONTEST**



**Honorable Mention**

Silent Cry by Chukwu, Chisom Loretta, Nigeria

See the piece [HERE](#)

Chisom Loretta is a dynamic young creative driven by a profound desire to make a positive impact on her society. She holds a B.A. in English and Literary Studies from the University of Nigeria, Nsukka. Chisom has contributed her work to various publications, including the Muse Journal, Chinua Achebe Anthology, Fleasonthedog magazine, Africa Rubiz, and other platforms. During her leisure moments, she enjoys taking walks to appreciate the beauty of nature. Alternatively, you can find her engrossed in scriptwriting or capturing moments through her lens. Chisom's love for writing is evident, and she is open to exploring more opportunities in the field.

## **SILENT CRY**

I cried out in silence, no one heard my plea  
My scars a license, he body shames me  
This pain is too much; I wish I could just flee.

But I'm trapped in this night mare, I'm stuck in this mire.  
He would kick me and punch me and tell me I'm worthless;  
Compares me and sets me below his ex.  
Why becomes a puzzle when he says, "I love you".

They say battles are for fighters,  
So, we fight like kungfu.  
Or how do I tell my kinsmen, "I'm no longer married".  
The stigma is too much; I can't stomach it.

So, I had to endure-if this ring on my finger still paints the billboard, "I'm off the market"  
It's not a movie, it's not scripted;  
how we give live shows to neighbours, his words piercing, slicing, breaking me apart.  
I became the soil where he plants in his punches.

When I cried out in silence and no one heard my plea,  
I became the ocean and drowned his being.