

Dedicated To all the people who think I am writing about them, I am

Nifemi hates cats. A hatred inherited from her mother and forefathers. In her village, cats are believed to be evil. Nifemi however did not consider herself superstitious. She did not believe in bad luck like the white man. She believed that sometimes good things happen and sometimes bad things happen. She believed that she could not make love on Sunday because God would be angry with her but on Monday it was fine.

She believed so long as Uwem did not put the tip in she was a virgin.

She believed that if you saw an owl at night, a close relative would die. She also believed in ghosts and spirits.

But she does not consider herself superstitious.

Uwem on the other hand was not superstitious. He did not believe in God or in satan. He did not care much for anything but his family and Nifemi.

He could never really understand his feelings for her but he never questioned it. Questioning it was too much work and he was lazy.

Uwem loved cats. He would often tell Nifemi that if they ever got married, he would adopt a cat. She would ask him to choose between herself and the cat. He chose the cat every time and she would laugh. This would often irritate him as he never understood why she laughed. He was serious.

Despite their differences, they loved each other deeply.

Nifemi would often tell Uwem that she would be okay without him. Uwem would always say he would die without her.

Life would happen and they would both be wrong.

Nifemi would not be okay without Uwem. Uwem on the other hand would be perfect.

Nifemi would find herself looking for him in other men, even when she didn't try to;

The nice boy at work.

The put-together man at the bank.

She would find Uwem in places she never thought she would. In people she never thought she would.

In the village, in herself. Ironically, at church.

Nifemi would never be the same again. At first she won't notice. Then one day she would. She would accept that she is superstitious. She would accept that Uwem is gone.

She would visit an old friend. A friend who knew of the love she had shared with Uwem.

"I think I am going to grow old alone with 8 cats" Nifemi would say

"But you don't even like cats" Nike replied.