Volta Igbo

## Richard Berengarten

ntughari nke si n'aka / translated by Obododimma Oha

## Mmemme Volta

...ugbua itiri gbara...

Anyanwu eze elu, okpogho kacha ibe, chawaputa agbomma Mgbe I meturu m aka ka anunuahu m gbanwere okpukpu mgbado azu oziga ozi, ahu m maa jijiji Olaedo I na-ehusa n'osomiri na-amuke, Chachisie m anya Ebe a ka ulo na uzoama guzobu – ha guzokwa di ka m siri chee – Nke obodo ozo nwe N'abughi nke a aka gi gbanwerela

N'ikpere mmiri ka anyi na-akpa.

ugbo ndi okuazu abali nozi na-acho ibilite oru,

uzu njini na-akpotu, oku mpanaka ha na-enwu n'isi ugbo
Obodo niile aputakwala maka mmemme,

Iko onye-na-onye nkonye aka, umuokoro ana-atu anyaka ije
Nne na nna, umuaka na-arachakwa otite aisikrim

Ndi ikom agadi na-elere anya ebe ha no n'agiga ulo

Ugwu gbara itiri na-abiaketa nso, ka umuanu nwere mmasi

Nchake eluigwe nke uhuruchi oma, gaa rute n'ugwu na mbala, Di ka ntumade, aka gi na-emetu nke m ugbua, Di ka mmetu ahu nke nwaagbogho so m aga Ukwu ya dere ma na-ete, nwaayo-bu-ije Ntutu isi gbatia hufere azu, olu oma na ubu Nke okochi choro mma, anya otangele bu so naani ochi Ife di amuma, a ñudala m gi, ka egwu na mmanya Di ka ndi nnanna ya siri ñua gi otutu afo gara aga.

Obodo nro, Elefeteriya bu aha ya,
Ma obunadi na apupa I bu bu igherighe uzuzu n'anya ya,
Mana ugbua ife na nchawa ya
Na-akpa agwa n'ihu ya di ka uri moobu ekwurekwu
o bu oke ya site na mgbe ochie iga n'agiga ose
Di ka aka ji onodu na onye nchedo ife
Site n'imeime anya ya were ya,
Oke ya, nke puru iche, bu izo gi ukwu ka ogba egwu.

Uhuruchi omasiri m, ife dirila nnukwuru nnu afo, oguegwu olu ya bu ogene, omaricha di ka ogori a, Gini kpataziri na m agaghi egbuchapuru ebube

I na-enye obodo a na ndi bi n'ime ya, okpuu Nke na-ahazi ihe niile o meturu, uwa a niile? A burula m ohu gi, ma o buru na abughi m nwaafo gi. Di ka o si agu m ka m ñua gi n'uju, aga m ejiri Ebube gbajuo oghere anuahu niile, nke inwere onwe ya.

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