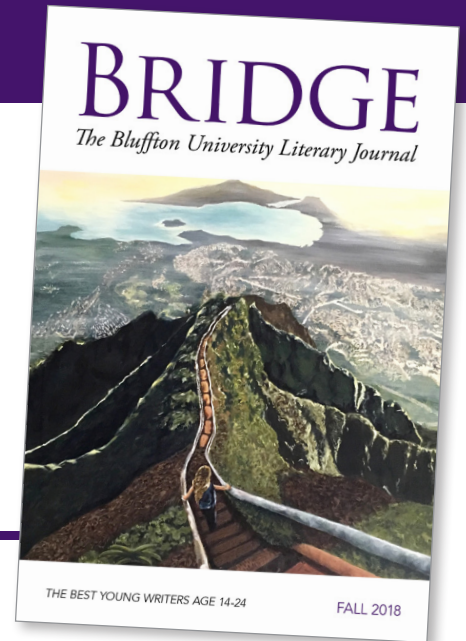


BRIDGE

The Bluffton University Literary Journal



WILDFLOWER

Ogunkoya Samuel

This day last year,
You sat songs on your lips
Didn't you?
They fell like autumn leaves
to your sleeves.
You wove poetry out of them.
Lengthy footnotes to God.
Every punctuation was a hidden sentence.

,

Your poem was a delicate prayer
to be stronger than your strength
to be more human than humna
Human*
You crawled through becoming
And named every day of the year after all
the cities you have been to. You once
told a girl she is the best city you
Ever visited. You watched her smiled then laughed
and then began to cry. She asked you what makes you stay.
You told her you are of the seed of Cain.
She melted.

Today, you will rise again.
God knows flowers grow in deserts.
Today, you have fled to yourself again
To be happy
To find home
For no man can find home
Outside of
Himself.



OGUNKOYA SAMUEL

is a 23 year old Nigerian Physiotherapist. His works have been published in "Kalahari Review," "AfricanWriter," "Barking Sycamores," "Entropy Mag's Enclave" and "Best New African Poets Anthology 2017." He writes from Benin City.