

## **Eventually, we will see**

By Bakita Kasadha

Finally attending more appointments  
than burials  
I see you

Still urging teammates who  
persist in double-gloving  
to recognise their own non-compliance

\*

I see you  
terminating all thoughts of parenthood  
you were ill advised

Outliving your parents prematurely  
Hearing *life is a miracle*  
Yet questioning if it's still worth living

\*

Once postponing getting tested  
you already knew the answer  
Now taking your medication

Routinely  
for the first time  
You see yourself giving birth with peace of mind

\*

Where occupied lands  
impede access  
Undetectable remains out of reach

An all-consuming righteous rage  
We see injustice forcing you to place  
your activist before your personhood

\*

Can you see a stigma-free world?

Envision what it takes to reach it

Where the media, arts view us

living, view us loving

Focus on us just being – imagine

Eventually living openly will not be a bold move

Imagine!

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It will take political will, solidarity

translated across borders

being in community away from restricted zones

Seeing those most affected

liberated from visa hostilities

free to fully speak

\*

For those who once sold all they owned

anticipating an early death

See themselves planning for decades

Living many lives

where we are free from imposed

transmission hierarchies

\*

Where we breathe easy

setting an example to the world

of how to bond, collaborate, cherish

Across difference, beyond identities

They will see how we

reclaim our humanity

\*

Not asked *how did you get it?*

but *how is life?*

*I will continue to love you*

Learning to say *HIV* without that sharp inhale  
Giving silent dedication to  
those we cannot name  
not fearing naming them any longer

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Eventually, we will see it  
Live in our entirety