
“Uneasy lies the head that wears the Crown”



**A tribute to Michael Jackson:
Aug 1958-June 2009**

King of Pop said Go

By Lylian Fotabong

“This Is It. This Is It. I just want to say that... These... These will be my final shows, performances in London. This will be it. This is it. And When I say this is it, it really means This Is It. Because emmm....I will be, I will be performing the songs my fans want to hear.

This Is It, I mean this is really it; this is the final curtain call. I will see you in July.

And I love you. I really do. You have to know that, I love you so much, really, from the bottom of my heart... This Is It. And see you in July,” Michael Jackson told fans, March 2009 in London.

That Was It. That was his final goodbye and you have to listen to your heart to admit that Michael was always going to leave you in suspense and a lot of drama, even in death.

That was really it - his goodbye and He will no longer see his fans this month, July; neither will he ever see them again. The only hope for fans is that he will be looking down from Heaven (from Above as he would rather) and inspiring them as he did in his almost five decade reign as “Stage Star Child-King of Pop.”

Ever the singer and child in him, Michael Jackson’s Come Back Speech, the greatest come back the world has ever known...would have ever known, was undeniably his Part One Farewell Tribute to his fans. And if you thought he did not say goodbye, then what is goodbye if you do not hear **“This Is It?”**

That was it. Part Two Farewell was his actual deep rehearsals and passing away. He “Beat It” even in death and succeeded to get everyone wrapped under his finger of awe and drama, even right to the moment of dying

Death

He died on Thursday, June 25th, 2009, at his rented apartment in the upper class Los Angeles neighbourhood of Holmby Hills after suffering, what was, according to his brother, Jermaine Jackson, a cardiac arrest.

“We feared that this day will come but we prayed that it should not, at least, not at this time of his monster comeback,” Jermaine Toure wrote from Galway.

His life ended in circus as he prepared for his July 13th fifty series Concert at the London O2 Arena; a death, his critic thought he wished as he disclosed in a conversation with Ex-wife, Lisa Marie Presley some fourteen years ago.

A death his children and even his personal physician, Dr. Conrad Robert Murray, who is said to have been living with him, thought was continuation of his horror pranks he loved playing on them - only this time it was too severe for a practical joke. Only this time, the doctor became too emotional and dumbstruck to rush to safe the dying king, even though it is alleged that he administered the Demerol that killed him - as he did every day.

Michael Jackson planned his life, at least to be extraordinary and not to be normal. He lived for his children and fans and died living for them; the same people who gave him the fame and who gave him a concept of his life... never to die but to remain an eternal entertainer and King of Pop - Peter Pan.

In death he ruled the world. In death it is estimated that he will earn more than he was alive and as King of Pop..... an extraordinary life and an extraordinary talent so that he took most people around the world under his spell.

Bullied

The Kremlin had once described the Mega Star as a man “who sold his black soul for white profits.” But did the Kremlin know that he was suffering from a skin disease called “vitiligo” that caused him to do reconstruction

surgery? Or, did it, like most people, believe that the skin disease was as a result of unscrupulous surgery make-over?

Others have described him as a child who was bullied and made to be unhappy in his own skin, race and gender and finally haunted in the skin he bleached. He too claimed he and his brothers were bullied, lashed and threatened by their father, Joe Jackson, at the start of their music career in the 1960’s - The Jackson Five.

But was this the tale of one man who dreaded his father so much he thought he wanted to be a man born from the moon, without a father and without roots?

He claims (is it not humorous that it is difficult to talk about Mi-

chael Jackson in the past?) that he was bullied by his father and made to go to extremes, the same extremes that fixated him and got him stuck as a child. He never grew up to be a man.

Michael Jackson, it seems, stopped growing when he was ten and not when he was twenty-five. And that is how he remembered himself, a ten-year-old boy.

He knew and only remembered “little Michael” as a teen. That is why the fair-ground, Neverland Ranch-his home, a 2800-acre property in California’s Santa Barbara County that he bought at the cost of about \$ 12 million was his personality; a life of a fairy tale - maybe living in a planet other than ours. He lived there as a child and not as a man. His concepts of life were strong, yet embedded in the ways of a child.

Even his bones were tender and divine; he was fragile and could dance as someone without muscles to crack. There was no maturity in his bones, neither was there any maturity in his speech. He spoke from within, an innocence that so many now question whether that was sinister and whether they may have even dreaded?

However, the questions of innocence and bully were not a thing only truly identifiable with Michael; it was too with the rest of his family - most of them retreat to themselves, even LaToya, Michael’s older sister on the famous Celebrity Big Brother, in the UK, early this year, portrayed how timid and retreated she is, either from the verbal and physical abuse she has suffered in the hands of two very controlling male figures in her life - her father and ex-husband, Jack Gordon, who beat her with a

metal chair and forced her to divorce him in 1997, or from the stress of growing up and coping with many male siblings.

Michael was bullied and made to go to extremes. His real person - his personality is (was) ghostly but there is no question that his talents stretched beyond human understanding. Even with this background, they are still a group of people who believe that, “Morally, Michael Jackson was never an Idol and in his Personality, he was a ghost.”

Notwithstanding the talk of bully, the one thing Michael acknowledged was that his father - their parents gave him, like his siblings, the prominence that he achieved in later years. The world knows that irrespective of the claims

made on Joe Jackson by his children, he contributed enormously to making them successful, thus the title “The First Royal Family of Popular Music.”

The arrogance of super power, however, was a thing “Papa” saw while sitting down but the Jackson children could not see it at their age, even standing. As the adage goes, “What an old man sees sitting down, a young man cannot see standing,” and so true was it for the Jackson children that they could not see, even whilst standing, what their father could see sitting down.

Is it not also true that this generation of the Jacksons were born out of a time of apex apartheid America? Is it not also true that African parents, whether born abroad or have African roots are Africans in the way they bring up their families and children? What is considered corporal punishment in Africa as a means of reinforcing correct and acceptable behaviour in children can be seen and confused, in most cases, by Western institutions and countries as child abuse and you can name the rest (This does not mean I in any way, accept corporal punishment as a corrective measure on Children.)

But what must be understood is that Africans, by roots or associate or family, have a strong sense of responsibility to correct their children and most importantly, have a strong sense of family. Very few Africans despise their families... very few yet hate their children.

In this regard, was it not a myopic perspective that some of the Jackson Children laid their misfortunes on their father whom they felt hated them while refusing to make themselves moral icons? You ponder, therefore, if this was not because they went from poor to affluent and felt they had to take their lives into their hands? Maybe it was a way to escape their real capabilities? There is no question that without their father’s strong support, they would never have been a “Michael Jackson.”

Michael Jackson went off and built his own life and surrounded himself with scavengers and money monsters that were, most often, only interested in his wealth. They finally sucked his blood till the end. He carved out a very un-



odbye Before Dying

conventional way of life, blamed some of his transformation on his father and skin sickness and changed the surgery landscape into ends that only depict a strong sense of capitalism that is yet to be wiped out in America, like the rest of the world.

But what his death has shown, and very crucially so, is the deep belief that as an African, **“a man without family is a man living in shadows of his own skin, meanwhile, a man who has money and no family, dies.”**

What he finally did not learn, perhaps, was that **Success can kill as rapidly as Failure.**

Surgery Fanatic

He had to be different, maybe also extravagantly to not look like the rest of his family and most especially his father whom he said bullied him to terrifying consequences. Maybe it was because of the white influence in Indiana where he grew up and the notion shared by some black people while growing up, especially in the 1960's – (growing up as a black kid in a white man's land, the thoughts were always the same; a white coloured person is best and perfect.) Or maybe it was the irrefutable truth that Michael had a skin condition and had suffered terrifying two to third degree burns at one of his shows that forced him to look for solutions, like every one of us will, too.

However, with the reported forty to fifty surgical procedures done to him, he would have tried to be different: maybe become a colour other than any human race has ever been or a colour that science and plastic surgeons could have invented – just for him; giving that science continues to explore, and Michael, to me, was like a great surgery experiment that all went wrong. In the end he ended up not being very different after all. He became white and interestingly, many times as a white woman.

You superimpose the Black and White Surgical Singer's faces and you realise with wonder, how extraordinary the many faces were and it is astonishing, yet paradoxical, that he ended up not loving any of the faces that he tried so much to be like. He endured pain as Black Michael and much more, I believe, as White Michael, yet in that infamous Martin Bashir's Documentary, he claimed he had no procedures to eliminate his blackness other than his nose in order to be able to hit high notes! How very much like Michael. (But he hit bigger or higher musical notes when he had his beautiful black rounded nose!) And also, most people seem to be doing plastic surgery anyway.

The one thing that we should, perhaps, be drawing allusion to, is that plastic surgeons should have a limit to what they can or cannot do. As it is a well understood fact that money corrupts, we have to argue the real impetus why doctors, surgeons that dealt with the Child Star abused him clinically and pharmaceutically in the way they did.

And to think that this group of people, especially, are there to maintain balance between staying alive, being healthy and not injecting or inducing clients and patients to death (by administering what clients or patients require) is quite shocking to comprehend. But we know the underlying reason - the clients can pay for it. **CAPITALISM IN ITS REAL SENSE**

Otherwise, how do you explain that Michael Jackson's autopsy reports showed an alarming intake of semi digested pharmaceuticals and not food?

Those doctors and surgeons who prescribed and provided Jackson with the blind possibilities of painkillers all his life **“have Michael's blood on their hands,”** said Ex Body Guard (maybe Martin Bashir too). But I am inclined to think how much more interesting the world would have reacted to this immediate and uncanny drama were Dr. Murray a white coloured doctor.



The doctors, surgeons, who most often, want new areas to delve into, should see well. There ought to be a law prohibiting colour surgical change and insane and grotesque medical extremes!!!
If alcohol, cigarettes can be banned why not mad science expedition?

Child Michael

If we agree that Michael is...was Peter Pan, was a child, refused to become an adult, did not grow after 25, then we have contradicted ourselves in the very meaning of Michael Jackson phenomenon.



Children need supervision and guidance but the child Michael was never guided. He was surrounded by a co-coon of monsters ready to prowl for the money. He was a money making tool, used by his immediate “family” who cared neither after him nor his health.

The system failed Michael, his fans failed him, his family and friends failed him and he failed himself too. In his lyrics, like everything else around him, he always felt that there was someone watching after him but was there? Did he really grow older than ten? He was stuck at ten and stayed ten... watch the lovely Michael VS Usher Video on YouTube, like many other videos and see that Michael was a genuine child. He was born a child, grew up on stage as a child, lived his extreme life of adventure as a child and finally died as a child.

His case has been compared to that of putting the brain of a ten years old child into a fifty years-old-man...That was Michael's situation.

Three Children

It may have seemed to the outside world that the eccentric moonwalker would never have a child because he

was himself a child. When he finally did, the world became torn apart – one world asking questions whether he could even father children, supposing the idea of a mystery father to his three kids?

The other world believes that he could father children but there is a heartbeat: Are these three kids who appear white skin, his? The children look nothing like him... Do they mean in colour? Or, that the children lack the black soul singer in them? Or that they have, up till this time not been stars at five themselves? But Debbie Rowe confirmed that Michael Jackson was the real father and even went deeper to explain that she was the reason the kids wore masks because she was more terrified of the rest of the world than Michael was.

To be fair on the group that believes Michael could not have fathered the three, Michael Joseph Jackson, Jr., Paris Michael Katherine Jackson and Prince “Blanket” Michael Jackson II, here is one reason to boost you up:

It is irrefutable that children born of different colours, especially black and white would be a mixed breed or “half cast” in colour, most often, but is it not fascinating that none of his children are like that? If we agree that that assertion is incorrect, then some medical doctors are ready to put down their certificates on this: Michael could not have fathered these children. To them, this will defy all scientific grounds.

However, this could be true in a case where the lady, (in this case Debbie Rowe the mother of the first two children and the Surrogate mother of the third) had the dominant gene; so that it is most likely that the kids will appear white skin.

With surrogate blanket, Michael claimed the surrogate mother is Black...Yeah... that is true if the black surrogate may have had a white parent along the line ... very complex). But does it matter if it is “Black” or “White”?

And the reality was too distorted to Michael that he dared to tell the world that his last son, Prince Michael Jackson II, (aka “Blanket”) was born of a black woman. Two Black people produce a well white coloured child with no physical trace of black?

Science may argue all it wants, a few cases have pointed towards the chances of that occurring but there is only one to many chances that that can occur.

Could the fascinated singer's case be one of the few documented cases in the world or was he fooled into admitting and accepting that the mystery mother is black? And he himself is black!

Maybe he was too ashamed of being black, maybe that he wanted nothing - not even his children to look black and just maybe that he got his children to do some forms of plastic surgery too.

But, it was not who Michael was, rather it was what he did that defined him.

Twists & Turns

He was high profile from live to death. From music to controversial court and colour cases- the likes of his child molestation court case but the twists were unending – from living the most flamboyant, lavish and fairytale life style at the Neverland Ranch, to nothing and then to hotels then to an alleged basement of an ex-employee and then to the \$100,000/month rented apartment that finally saw him at the whitest... Ghostly fragile Michael- where his comeback history was to rejuvenate but that was yet to never be.

He accused the police of violating his Neverland Ranch when they searched his home following his second trial of child-molestation. He abandoned the kingdom and in 2008, just a few months before his death, Neverland Ranch's deed was transferred to Sycamore Valley Ranch Company with the amusement park rides removed and his memorabilia headed for auction.

He was thought to be very unwell following his recent public appearances and cancellation of his early concerts. He was looking the worst he has ever looked.

He was in rehearsal two days before his death. He paced the floor, restless and unable to sleep just hours before his death. He demanded for prescription drugs as he

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King of Pop said Goodbye Before Dying

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had always and who knows what else!

He loved to play pranks on his family that he was dead. His doctor is said to have jabbed him the deadly dose of Demerol. The same physician thought he was playing pranks that he was dead as he lay dying in his hands. He died while the same physician was screaming, Michael, wake up... Michael... Before he could remember to begin resuscitating him

He died before 911 was dialled

The children saw their father dying and said, Daddy, Daddy wake up. They were then turned away from the scene and tucked in their bedrooms as they screamed for Daddy. He was always there when he was needed - for his children, his family, fans and the rest of the world; ironically, there seemed to be nobody there when he desperately needed them - as he lay dying

Love Life

- He openly declared that he was not gay
- In 1994, he married first wife, Elvis Presley's only child, Lisa Marie Presley but they divorced in 1996
- In the same year, 1996, he married nurse, Debbie Rowe whom he had met when she was eighteen years old, and with whom they had two children but separated in 1999. According to Debbie, "she could no longer bear the media lies and the cameras." (The world believes their relationship was short term but it was not - they knew each other for more than two decades)
- Reports from former head of body guards (Matt Fiddes) says he had a secret girlfriend in the UK? And not the Ugandan Nanny? But this has been heavily criticised by the media as an attempt by his friends and fans to clean the poor records the King of Pop was noted for.
- But why would everything "Michael Jackson" be so confrontational, controversial and sceptical? Why would someone not believe him for once, even in death? Was it because he did not believe in himself or was it because he was not Elvis? But he was Michael Jackson.
- In 1994, he was accused of abusing 13-year-old boy Jordan Chandler and settled the case out of court at an estimated \$20million (Supposing that he was a paedophile)
- As if that was not enough, he was again at the centre of another molestation claim of another 13-year-old boy, suffering from cancer, Gavin Arvizo, when he admitted in the infamous Martin Bashir Documentary (2003) of having slept in the same bed with the teen. Lucky Escape for him this time, when in 2005, he was cleared of all charges in a painstaking four month trial
- He believed that he connected a lot more with the children; "they do not judge you, they do not gossip, I have never been deceived by children; adults have" and although it cost me a lot of fortune to put my idea of Neverland to reality, I get it all back when I see the smiles of the children," Michael said to Martin Bashir in the Documentary titled, Footage you were never meant to see. Now, let us face it; that was genuine. And fans have this to say: Michael opened up his heart to Bashir and he ruined him.. Deceived him

Intrigues

Speaking to his London Promoter, Randy Philip, a day before his death, he reportedly told him "Now I know I can do this." Whether this was his final goodbye or his most loved wish of passing on, or his desired comeback, it is captivating to think that what Michael said was what his receiver understood. Even more so, that his long wish of dying like Elvis Presley was not always at the back of his mind, even for the man who said his body is a machine that needed personal and regular care.

Names

Michael Jackson succeeded to earn titles and names in his five decade long career.

The moonwalker, The man behind the mask, The mysterious man in the wheelchair, The Man in the Mirror, Black Michael and Surgical White Michael, Tabloids nicknamed him Wacko Jacko, King Sani (A title given to him during his second visit to Africa, this time in Ivory Coast at age thirty three where a crown of gold was placed on his head and was later sat on a throne of gold. He travelled from Gabon to South Africa to Ivory Coast to Egypt and to many other parts of Africa, Europe and the rest of the world.)

Generations of Michael

Michael the Child
Michael the Artists and performer
Michael the Man
Michael the Story (Wacko Jacko)

Michael Jackson's siblings



1. **Sister Rebbie Jackson**,
born May 29, 1950 (1950-05-29) (age 58)
2. **Brother Jackie Jackson**,
born May 4, 1951 (1951-05-04) (age 57)
3. **Brother Tito Jackson**,
born October 15, 1953 (1953-10-15) (age 55)
4. **Brother Jermaine Jackson**,
born December 11, 1954 (1954-12-11) (age 54)
5. **Sister La Toya Jackson**,
born May 29, 1956 (1956-05-29) (age 52)
6. **Brother (Twin) Marlon Jackson**,
born March 12, 1957 (1957-03-12) (age 51)
7. **Brother (Twin) Brandon Jackson**,
born March 12, 1957, (Died hours after birth)
8. **Michael Jackson**,
born August 29, 1958 (1958-08-29) (age 50)
9. **Brother Steven Jackson (aka Randy)**,
born October 29, 1961 (1961-10-29) (age 47)
10. **Sister Janet Jackson**,
born May 16, 1966 (1966-05-16) (age 42)

Albums(750 million) record world wide

In 1972, Michael Jackson released four solo albums, one in 1973 and another in 1975 but that failed to hit the charts. In 1979, however, his Off The Wall Album (produced by Quincy Jones) was the beginning of what the world was still to feel and experience.

It topped US Top 10 hits four times and sold over twenty-million copies but the world was not yet ready for the package to come when King Sani launched what will be known for generations to come as the biggest selling album of all time - in history - Thriller was made and gave birth to a new generation of music, theatre arts, performance and video.

Thriller, the Album, was created in 1982 and stayed on the US Top 10 for eighty weeks and sold over one hundred and nine copies in one year, the biggest, any entertainer has ever dared. He combined video to introduce a new form of music and entertainment and from whence the whole world would follow and from where other talents would imitate but never duplicating. This was followed by Bad in 1987, then Dangerous in 1991 that featured the No 1 single Black or White. HIStory was released in 1995 (a combination of his greatest hits and new songs) that featured his last No 1 single "You are Not Alone" and the very last and 10th of his studio albums was released in 2001 called Invinible.

Michael Jackson is reported to have sold over 750 million records and his album "Thriller" remains the best selling album history has ever witnessed.

No man was more Global than MJ (Fans)

He played to the fans and finally played his life to the fans. To his fans, they wanted him to stay as "little Michael" of ten years old and to remain eternal as the "little Michael." That is what you wanted, we all and him too. But he was so short-sighted, just like a child, and we all share a responsibility in his death - we all demanded a piece of Michael and it is not surprising therefore that, till date, most fans still find him 100% original and it does not matter to them what other people think.

Michael, 50 = 50 Concerts= Golden Jubilee= Golden Boy Forever

He could never have waited to die at 51 because he was special, maybe planned to be special and to go out as ever more special. He left holes in our hearts, no doubt, but he has left behind a legacy of puzzles to resolve and assignments of unending journeys of research.

But now you must RIP, Michael

Achievements in Africa

Michael Jackson paid his first visit to Senegal, Africa when he was fourteen years of age. It is reported that there, he was greeted by a long line of African dancers and the rhythms filled his heart so much he proclaimed that that was his origin. In his own words, he said: "All right! They got the rhythm... 'This is it.' This is where I come from... The origin."

He then visited children's hospitals, churches, schools and playgrounds in Gabon when he was thirty-three years old and there, the recently deceased former President, Omar Bongo, presented him with the West African nations Medal of Honour during his "Come Back to Eden" tour; was a non performing one. He was the first performer to ever receive the medal, which until then, was only given to heads of states, high ranking diplomats and dignitaries

It is no surprise therefore that his death has had an emotional effect on fans especially in Africa where, from Nigeria to South Africa to Kenya to Somalia, from radio presenters to l'homme de la rue, they broke down in tears, mourning the death of a man, whom, in a lot of ways reminded them of their own childhoods - their souls are gone with Michael Jackson.

Michael Jackson was without doubt, one of the most munificent stars of all time. His charitable works went far and wide but also, especially, to Africa where he considered his roots. He pumped in financial assistance that saw the creation and realisation of hospitals, orphanages, schools and homes for the homeless in most of West, Southern and Eastern Africa; notably was his support towards Child immunization, HIV-AIDS, Education and Apartheid.

Perhaps the most remarkable was the song he wrote: "We are the World" for "We are the World Project" and supported by Lionel Richie and Quincy Jones in an attempt to salvage the poor in Africa.

It was no surprise again that the Guinness Book of Record, 2000 Edition listed him as the Most Charities Supported By a Pop Star, having given most of his proceeds from concert tours to charities and more than \$ 50,000,000 to charities throughout the world at the time, such as The United Negro College Fund, TransAfrica, The Congressional Black Caucus Foundation, the Scholarship Fund, Children's Institute International, and Juvenile Diabetes Foundation.

It was also no surprise that he received a Humanitarian Award from The African Ambassadors' Spouses Association, AASA, and (an association of fifty-one members representing fifty-one countries) for his worldwide humanitarian efforts, particularly in Africa. Significantly is the promise of a gold plated framed resolution in honour of Michael Jackson forever in what, Congresswoman, Sheila Jackson is yet to pass to the House Floor.

Farewell Memorial

The farewell memorial brought the world to its knee, in what, the Staples centre, Hollywood, witnessed as the greatest event since the 1984 Olympics, topping about eighteen thousand people in the congregation and billions more watching in from around the world. Family and friends, the loyal and not so loyal fans have all agreed that he "brought black and white together and changed the life of African-American in the USA. He taught the world to love one another and he was the last icon of that sort!

Daughter, Paris, knows him as the "best father in the world."

No matter how you see it, the world has just lost the Biggest man, ever was and ever will be in pop history. There can only ever be one Michael Jackson
WE LOVE YOU MICHAEL. RIP