

MATTHEW POWER – THE WATER OF THE NILE RIVER

Do not cry for me

Do not weep for me

I am not far away

I am next door.

I am just a breath away

I am just a heart-beat away

I live on

I am active

I am the memory of the good times we shared together

I am the word that informs

I am the mind that generate ideas

I am the light that vanquishes the darkness

I am the rain that gives life

I am the sun full of everlasting energy

I am, above all, the water of the Nile that gives life to everything in the river, the bank and the hinterland

I am the riverside butterfly, the colourful flying flower that propagates the flora

I am the riverbank tree that sprouts again whenever broken by the elephant and burnt by fire

I am water thick knee, the beautiful bird that shares the sandbank with the deceptive, tear-shedding, and man-eating, Nile crocodile, but what a name

I am the lion, the king of the jungle that roars across rivers, plains and over hills

I am the water in the Sudd in South Sudan with the mixed blessing, stagnant, evaporating, and broken into channels that impedes navigation but supports wildlife, birds, fish, livestock and humans

I am the magic in the Nile water that flows stately and majestically to quench the thirst of the desert and feed Sudan and Egypt

I am the streams, rivers and lakes with cool and crystal clear water that drains into and feeds the mighty Nile River, and that gave the name White to the Nile

I am the memory that lives on in Uganda, the Pearl of Africa, the land of forests, green valleys, rolling hills and plains, clever and friendly people

I am Wang Kac, the open gate to the Acholi tribe's traditional homestead; standing ready to welcome all visitors who have the soft heart and peaceful mind

Remember me

Remember the good times together

I live on

I am active

I am the oxygen of life

I am blood circulating the oxygen

I am close to you

I am not far away from you

Do not cry for me

Do not weep for me

