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The publication of an English translation of Abdilatif Abdalla's *Sauti ya Dhiki (Voice of Agony)* will revolutionize our conception of African literature and its cultural politics. This book puts Swahili poetry at the center of debates about world literature and displays the capacity of translation to expand the boundaries of writing in African languages."

—Simon Gikandi, Class of 1943 University Professor of English, Princeton University

THE IMAGINATIVE VISION OF ABDILATIF ABDALLA'S VOICE OF AGONY

Poems Translated by Ken Walibora Waliaula Edited by Annmarie Drury

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The extraordinary Swahili poetry collection Sauti ya Dhiki (Voice of Agony), is a collection of prison poems composed by Abdilatif Abdalla between 1969 and 1972. He originally wrote the poems while incarcerated by the government of Jomo Kenyatta for sedition as a result of his political activism and smuggled them out of prison on scraps of paper. Imaginative Vision is the first complete literary translation into English—translated by the late Kenyan novelist and scholar Ken Walibora Waliaula and edited by Annmarie Drury—of one of the most esteemed and influential collections of Swahili poetry of the twentieth century.

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Abdilatif Abdalla is a celebrated Kenyan poet and political activist.

Annmarie Drury is Associate Professor of English, Queens College, City University of New York.

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