

# *This is my Country*

by

**Alfonso P. Santos**

*This is my country, my home, my natiweland;  
You will know her by the brown earth and the brown face;  
This is my freeworld: Philippines, my Philippines!  
By the narra, the sampaguita, and the kilyawan.*

*You will hear her on the tongue of the Ilocano,  
The Tagalog, the Visayan, and the Mindanao lad;  
Smell her in the boiled rice, the daing, and the carabao;  
Taste her in the mango, the coconut, and the basi.*

*You will see her in the June rain and the March wind;  
Feel her in the October typhoons and the April heat;  
Touch her everywhere from Batanes to Tawi-tawi,  
From Samar to Palawan and the waters around.*

*This is my country, my freeworld; land dear and holy,  
Pride of all Filipinos, the glory of heroes great:  
Behold her round the sun with three stars bright,  
Behold her in the santang, sampaguita, and the blue-bell.*