

The Year of the Poet XIII

August 2026

Featured Global Poets

Lin Lin * Prabir Kumar Rath

Dr. Ezhil Vendhan * Swayam Prashant



The Ottoman Empire

The Poetry Posse 2026

Gail Weston Shazor * Albert Carassco * Hülya N. Yılmaz
Til Kumari Sharma * Caroline Nazareno * Mutawaf Shaheed
Elizabeth Castillo * Teresa E. Gallion * Noreen Snyder
Ashok K. Bhargava * Swapna Behera * Eliza Segiet
Tzemin Ition Tsai * Alicja Maria Kuberska * Khalice Jade
Kimberly Burnham * William S. Peters, Sr.

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Poet XIII

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The Poetry Posse

inner child press, ltd.

'building bridges of cultural understanding'

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Gail Weston Shazor
Til Kumari Sharma
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hülya n. yılmaz
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Elizabeth Esguerra Castillo
Khalice Jade
Mutawaf Shaheed
Caroline ‘Ceri’ Nazareno
Ashok K. Bhargava
Alicja Maria Kuberska
Swapna Behera
Albert ‘Infinite’ Carrasco
Kimberly Burnham
Eliza Segiet
William S. Peters, Sr.

~ * ~

In order to maintain each poet’s authentic voice, this volume has not undergone the scrutiny of editing. Please take time to indulge each contributor for their own creativity and aspirations to convey their uniqueness.

hülya n. yılmaz, Ph.D.
Director of Editing ~
Inner Child Press International

General Information

The Year of the Poet XIII

August 2026 Edition

The Poetry Posse

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WHAT WOULD
IFE
BE WITHOUT
A LITTLE
OETRY?

Dedication

This Book is dedicated to

Humanity, Peace & Poetry

the Power of the Pen
can effectuate change!

&

The Poetry Posse

past, present & future,
our Patrons and Readers &
the Spirit of our Everlasting Muse



*In the darkness of my life
I heard the music
I danced . . .
and the Light appeared
and I dance*

Janet P. Caldwell

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The Ottoman Empire

The Ottoman Empire has been, and continues to be, an enticing subject of in-depth research around the globe. Having ruled for over 6 centuries — 623 years, it is one of the longest-lasting empires in world history. Scholarly works generally revolve around the military prowess of the Ottoman sultans and the phenomenon called “Harem.” Studies on the development of the sciences, medicine, agriculture, economy, social structure, and literature are few and in-between.

With the onset of Orientalism, stemming largely from 19th century Europe, the orientalizing conceptualization of the “Harem” created a widely accepted portrayal of Ottoman women as an object of oppression and suppression. A large number of highly respected research findings can be cited here to demonstrate the opposite of the mentioned view. Due to space restrictions, however, only a counterexample will have to suffice.

Within the Ottoman Empire, a “Sultanate of Women” ruled between the mid-16th and late-17th centuries. This “Sultanate” operated from the Imperial Harem through which women — called Queen Mother (Valide Sultan) or Chief Consort (Haseki Sultan), held positions of power as regents,

as leaders of expansive and extensive architectural projects, and oversaw diplomacy.

Then, there were the female poets, among whom many became the forerunners of a feminist movement within and outside the Ottoman Empire. Zeynep Hatun and Mihri Hatun are two names of female poets who used their actual names in their public literary collections. Numerous others had chosen their public names to be of male origin, as was the most common practice of the era.

It seems appropriate to end this write-up with a few lines by Zeynep Hatun (15th century):

*O heart, why should your portion
not be the water bright with life,
And for a thousand times you may pursue
Alexander's dark path.
O Zeyneb, leave behind you
the woman's love of earthly show;
Go forth, like a man, with a true heart,
forsaking all adornment!*

hülya n. yılmaz, Ph.D.

Preface

We, Inner Child Press International, The Year of the Poet and The Poetry Posse welcome you.

As we now in our 13th year of monthly publications for **The Year of the Poet**, we still continue to be excited.

This year of 2026, our themes are about civilizations. As we month by month poetically explore many current and past cultures, I hope you will join us.

For those of you who are not familiar with our story, back in 2013, a few of us poets got together with the simple intention of producing a book a month. That was our challenge. Since that time the enterprise has blossomed and brought forth a fruit that seems to keep on growing as evidenced as we enter 2026.

Our purpose is simple. Through our lyrical words and verse, we not only wish to share our poetic works, but we also have the poetic naiveté to believe that we can assist in the growth of consciousness of the things that have an effect our collective humanity. Therefore, we welcome your readership. For more about what we are attempting to accomplish, have a look at our Publishing Web Site . . . www.innerchildpress.com. If you would like to

know a bit more about this particular endeavor
please stop by for a visit at :

www.innerchildpress.com/the-year-of-the-poet

Over the years, Inner Child Press has been socially active to bring awareness and catalog through literature the things that have an impact upon our world and its inhabitants. We have solicited, produced, underwritten and published quite a few volumes to that end. For more insight you may wish to visit : www.innerchildpress.com/the-anthology-market. If you are a writer, poet, or activist, you would be advised to keep a eye out for upcoming volumes should you desire to participate. All readers are welcomed as well. Note, that there is a myriad of published volumes that are available as a FREE PDF download as well as available for purchase at affordable prices.

We at this time extend to you our well wishes for your own personal journey and hope that you consider including us as a travel companion.

Bless Up

Bill

William S. Peters, Sr.

Publisher

Inner Child Press International

www.innerchildpress.com

The Ottoman Empire



Exploring what is important and what is real, the poet, Fuzûlî wrote, “Whatever exists in the world is love.” Born in 1483, Fuzûlî spent his life in Iraq, part of the Ottoman Empire after Sultan Süleyman I captured Baghdad in 1534. His intense explorations of human and mystical love made him foundational to both Azerbaijani and Ottoman literary traditions.

Born in 1494 Sultan Süleyman I, himself wrote poetry under the pen name Muhibbî, meaning “the lover” or “the affectionate one.” During his reign from 1520 to 1566, he produced a large body of ghazals, a rhyming pairs form of poetry. “Among people, nothing is esteemed like sovereignty,” he wrote, adding “Yet no sovereignty equals one breath of health.”

A contemporary of Fuzûlî and Muhibbî, Mihrî Hatun was raised in the cultured courtly world of Amasya, around 1460. She gained recognition in overwhelmingly male literary circles and left one of the earliest substantial poetry collections by a woman in the Islamic Middle East. Her love lyrics are distinguished by wit, learned allusion, emotional directness, and a female poetic speaker who can be strikingly self-assertive. “Brilliant lyrics reached us from that beloved.”

Fifty years later, Turkish poet, Bâkî wrote, “What remains beneath this dome is a pleasant echo.” encouraging us to consider what is left after we live, communicate, and write. Born in Istanbul, Bâkî was celebrated at Süleyman I’s court as the “Sultan of Poets.” He perfected an elegant and musical form of Ottoman Turkish lyric poetry.

Encouraging us to look at what we recognize and encourage, the poet Nef’î said, “People of the heart recognize one another; not to do so is unjust.” Born Ömer in Hasankale near Erzurum, Nef’î studied Arabic and Persian before entering Ottoman

government service in Istanbul. He became famous both for magnificent court panegyrics and for devastating satires.

Another Istanbul-born (1681) scholar and defining poet of the Tulip Era, Nedîm celebrating Istanbul, gardens, music, companionship, love, wine, and pleasure in unusually lively and locally flavored language. Many people believe that tulips came from Holland or the Netherlands, but tulips originated in Central Asia. Exporting tulips was forbidden in the Ottoman empire. Dutch traders snuck some out of Turkey. Several years ago, the Netherlands sent a big box of unique and beautiful varieties of tulips to Turkey with an apology note for taking them and said, "I hope you enjoy what we did with them."

In the more modern era, Orhan Veli Kanık (1914–1950), an Istanbul poet and a founder, with Oktay Rifat and Melih Cevdet Anday, of the influential Garip movement, wrote, "I am listening to Istanbul, my eyes closed." He rejected elevated diction, conventional poetic subjects, fixed meter, and ornate rhyme in favor of colloquial speech, ordinary city life, surprise, and sly humor. "Is the sea as beautiful as this every day?" Although he died at only thirty-six, his deceptively simple poems permanently changed the direction of modern Turkish verse. Close your eyes and listen. What are the sounds you hear? Are they a reflection of beauty in the world? What do you hear and what do the sounds mean to you?

A few years younger, Gülten Akin (1933–2015) wrote “We stood at the most tangled place of the age.” She also said, “No one has time to stop and understand delicate things.” Gülten Akin was born in Yozgat, studied law, and lived and worked for many years in different regions of Anatolia. Her poetry developed from intimate lyricism toward a broader engagement with women’s lives, poverty, migration, political repression, folk culture, and communal suffering. She encourages us to reflect on “delicate things.” What do you see as delicate? A human heart, a flower, a child’s hand, a promise. Write about what is precious to you.

Turkish poets have also given us several unique styles of poetry. Mâni poetry shares some characteristics with Japanese Haiku. A traditional mâni is usually: four lines, seven syllables per line, rhymed AAXA and focused on one compact emotional observation. Mânis frequently begin with an image from nature and then turn toward love, separation, longing, humor, or practical wisdom.

Kimberly Burnham
Portland, Oregon





Poets, Writers . . . know that we are the
enchanting magicians that nourishes the
seeds of dreams and thoughts . . . it is our
words that entice the hearts and minds of
others to believe there is something grand
about the possibilities that life has to offer
and our words tease it forth into action . . . for
you are the Poet, the Writer to whom the Gift
of Words has been entrusted . . .

~ wsp

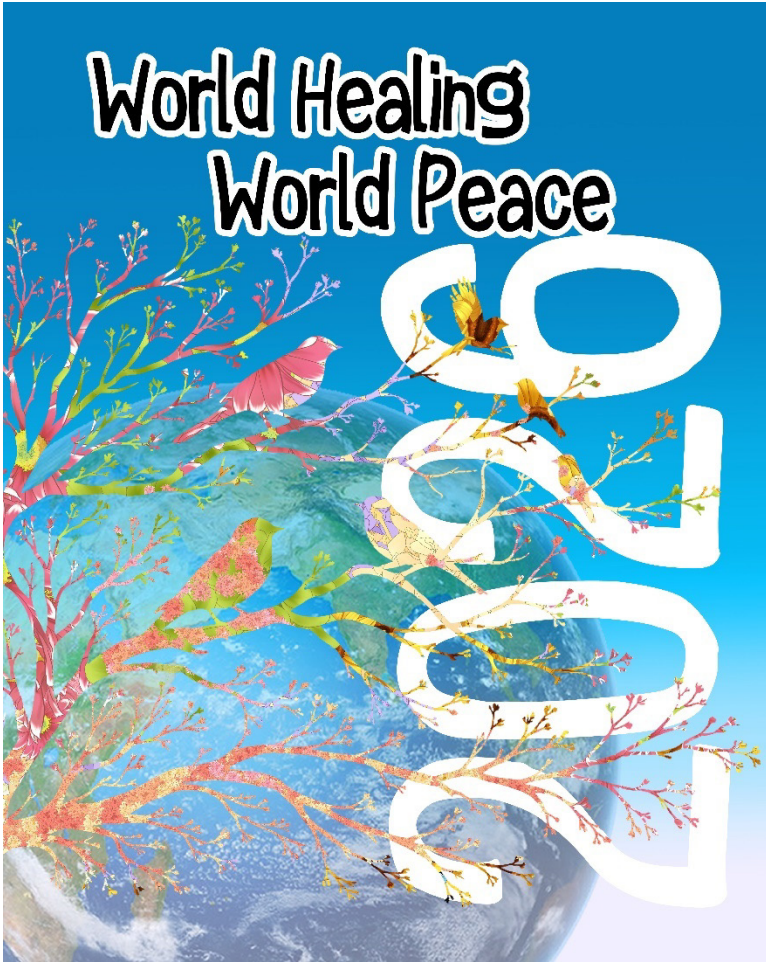




Poetry succeeds where instruction fails.

~ wsp

Now Available



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Gail
Weston
Shazor

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The Year of the Poet XIII August 2026

Gail Weston Shazor is a lover of words. She is fond of the arcane, unusual and the not yet words.

Coining words at an early age, there was often a bit of trouble with teachers, but she always had her mother and aunt to back up her choices in expression. Born in Mississippi, she spent her early years with her grandparents. Each of the four left very careful influences on her pre-schooling. She learned in turn how women worked in and out of the home and how men worked in and out of the home to support the family. She learned that a lack of proper schooling was not the only way to learn and understanding life was a great teacher. As in most rural families of color, women had a greater chance of formal learning. Both of Gail's grandmothers read out loud to the family whether it was the bible or the newspapers and important documents to their spouses.

Gail Weston Shazor has authored (so far) Notes from the Blue Roof, A Overstanding of an Imperfect Love, HeartSongs and Lies My Grandfather's Told Me. The number of anthologies is too many to list with the premier accomplishment of one of the contributors to The Year of The Poet. Gail will always lend her ink to community projects and will purchase the books of fellow poets in the Inner Child Press family.

Magic Carpet

I slowly unrolled
The family carpet
And knelt for prayer
Chanting, my mind wanders
Across bent backs in the square
It is hot and the leaders
Intone the call
And I fall silent
Today I am dreaming of
A far away land
With tall buildings
And women in short dresses
Colorful, spinning to
Loud music and neon lights
But that is not my life
I pull my scarf closer
Rise and begin re-rolling my carpet
I move down through the marketplace
To find the figs
That my father asked for.

Blitz

Snapping the air
Snapping my fingers
Fingers happy
Fingers bleed
Bleed poetry
Bleed ink
Ink is read
Ink is spoken
Spoken aloud
Spoken truth
Truth hurts
Truth heals
Heals the broken
Heals the earth
Earth greens
Earth speaks
Speaks health
Speaks life
Life is breath
Life is love
Love the stage
Love the mic
Mic sits
Mic waits
Waits for words
Waits for poets
Poets inspired
Poets divine
Divine expressed
Divine mission
Mission for world
Mission for peace
Peace hands

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Peace tongue
Tongue words
Tongue harmony
Harmony of mind
Harmony of spirit
Spirit flows
Spirit reaches
Reaches old
Reaches new
New life
New writers
Writers love
Writers ink
Ink
Love

Untitled

the wind waft your knows
playing loud music with your breath
forever gifting you a notion
to only have it gone
the membrane of which
causes the wonderment
as we so desperately seek the re
can I recall the why
of this journey from room to room
from age to decade
til we finally see
what it is that we could not
just moments before
maybe the knows wafting
is the call of ancestors
no longer on this plane
and subject to ethereal communications
of dreams
and senses
and shadows in the margins
they hold the re
of our membrane
calling us home

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Alicja
Maria
Kuberska

The Year of the Poet XIII August 2026



The Year of the Poet XIII August 2026

Alicja Maria Kuberska – awarded Polish poetess, novelist, journalist, editor.

She is a member of the Polish Writers Associations in Warsaw, Poland and IWA Bogdani, Albania. She is also a member of directors' board of Soflay Literature Foundation, Our Poetry Archive (India) and Cultural Ambassador for Poland (Inner Child Press, USA)

Her poems have been published in numerous anthologies and magazines in : Poland, Czech Republic, Slovakia, Hungary, Ukraine, Belgium, Bulgaria, Albania, Spain, the UK, Italy, the USA, Canada, the UK, Argentina, Chile, Peru, Israel, Turkey, India, Uzbekistan, South Korea, Taiwan, China, Australia, South Africa, Zambia, Nigeria

She received two medals - the Nosside UNESCO Competition in Italy (2015) and European Academy of Science Arts and Letters in France (2017). Ahe also received a reward of international literary competition in Italy „ Tra le parole e ‘elfinito” (2018). She was announced a poet of the 2017 year by Soflay Literature Foundation (2018).She also received : Bolesław Prus Prize Poland (2019), Culture Animator Poland (2019) and first prize Premio Internazionale di Poesia Poseidonia- Paestrum Italy (2019).

Sultanite

They said it was Hürrem's favourite,
the jewel of Ottoman harems.
Beautiful and capricious
as the Sultana herself.
It shimmered with yellow,
green, violet, and crimson,
playing with the light.
It came from the Altai Mountains
to conquer women's hearts—
as changeable
as its own radiance.
From love to hatred,
from yellow to red—
a single ray of light
is enough to change everything.

Pieces of Silver

We sold ourselves
for pieces of silver.
We pawned our consciences
for the promise of a happy life.
We believed we could hide
from the next calamities.
That someone else would lift
the burden of choice from our shoulders.
After all, we had paid.
We cling to that illusion
like a drunkard
to a rotting fence.
The pickets of faith
crumble into dust,
yet we still believe
that this fence
will save us
from the truth.

Naim Frashëri

In the shadow of the mountains
he kindled a fire of words.
Its flame
awakened dreams of freedom,
and the spirit of Albania
rose again
in the hearts of generations.
His pen journeyed
between song and history,
binding memory to hope.
His verses wove human hearts together;
they taught the love
of whispering rivers and trees,
of tradition,
of the native land.
From his mother tongue
he wove the song of a nation,
and like a bride
on her wedding day,
he led it into the light
to captivate the world.
The years pass,
yet poetry endures—
like a lighthouse
on a rocky shore,
whose light
does not fade despite the storms,
guiding those
who are still
searching for their way.

Til
Kumari
Sharma

The Year of the Poet XIII August 2026



The Year of the Poet XIII August 2026

Til Kumari Sharma is internationally awarded poet, essayist, story writer, reviewer, translator and so on. She has got numerous awards through writing around the world. She is a best-seller amazon no 1 poet. She is a featured- poet around the world. She is a poet in world record book “Hyper poem”. She has got World Creative Hero Award from LOANI. Anyway she is world famous author who was born in Paiyun 7- Hile, Parbat, West Nepal. Now she is in Kirtipur Kathmandu. Her portrait by Ukeme Udo is famous.

The Ottomans

Founder was Osman.

The time was from 1299 to 1453.

Golden period was at that time.

Authorized by Turkish leader.

It's scope was to Asia, Europe and Africa.

All together 600 years survived.

Many ethnic societies were nourished in this period.

It was popular at that time.

The development was much.

The time was with rationality too.

Slowly it declined from 17th century.

It remains in history.

Memory of civilization hints us to bring it's presence.

Death as Transformation only

Do not weep in my death it is only transformation.

Do not weep in my separation it gives you freedom enough.

Celebrate my death as your huge festival.

Feel free to fly and love anybody after my death.

Celebrate my death as it is your easy life.

Do not weep for me that gives you freedom to love another one.

You loved another that was separation of you and me.

Feel free when I was at your distance.

Celebrating my death is your huge happiness and success in your life.

The tomb will be identified with single Identity that is your choice and light.

Celebrate my death as it is your huge success of love and life.

Silent Journey to Death

Me as silent in the path,
Walk alone to reach in destiny.
Believing much to you as my own.
That is false dream.
Death is ultimate solution to go beyond pain.
That is the journey to destiny and death.
Death is sure one day.
Begins from womb to tomb.
It is festival to false follower and lover.
My struggle is the mother of learning.
My alienation is with my alienated door.
My isolation is healing light.
How to stand on the false love of someone?
Unbearable and painful to endure deceptive wound?
Where to go being strong alone?

Tzemin
Ition
Tsai

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The Year of the Poet XIII August 2026

Dr. Tzemin Ition Tsai comes from the Republic of China(Taiwan). In addition to being a professor of literature at a university, he is more committed to writing poems, novels, and proses. He is also an editor of “Reading, Writing and Teaching” academic text, an International editor of "Contemporary dialogues" literary periodical in Macedonia, and Vice-Chairman of the International Jury of the SAHITTO INTERNATIONAL AWARD in Bangladesh, and a columnist for “Chinese Language Monthly” in Taiwan.

In a wide range of literary creations, he is particularly fond of interesting stories or novels, and writing articles or poems about the feelings of nature and human beings. He has won many national literary awards. His literary works have been anthologized and published in books, journals, and newspapers in more than 55 countries and have been translated into more than 24 languages.

The Crescent Crosses the Theodosian Walls

April's sea locks blue within the Golden Horn.
The Theodosian walls hold dawn at bay with a thousand-year dream.
Inside, bells give prayer the last bread;
outside, great cannon hone thunder for the young sultan.
Urban's cast-black mouth spits doom again and again,
and bloody stars flake from the empire's brow.
A chain lies across the harbor, firmer than the tide;
yet ships cross the ridge, black fish entering the wound of land.
Drums draw near; the domes fall silent.
Each arrow gives history a new verb.
Constantine steps down from the throne,
leaving his crown to dust, his name to the gate.
Dawn is unfinished; the breach has learned to swallow men.
The crescent rises through smoke, thin as a cold blade.
It crosses the wall, not the eyes of the dead.
Victory shines beneath hooves and darkens in a mother's arms.
Hagia Sophia folds away its bells; echoes become prayer.
The columns ask no victor, remembering only the weight of knees.
Before the city is renamed, blood reads it once.
East and West exchange wounds upon the same rubble.
When Mehmed enters, the empire is young;
thousand-year Rome has shrunk to ash within a crack.
It is not the crescent that conquers eternity,
but eternity opening a gate to shelter another rise and fall.

An Unsent Letter Beneath the Harem Lattice

Mother, Topkapı's lattice knows better than winter how to seal a mouth.

İznik blue tiles fold my homeland small,
into a seed inside my sleeve—unable to sprout, unwilling to die.

They changed my name as one changes a lamp's shade;
the flame is mine, though it lights another's palace.

At dawn, the Black Eunuch's steps measure the halls.
Every door is locked; each rule lies deeper than a lock.
The women teach me script, embroidery, music, and silence.

Silence is the hardest art to master.

The Valide Sultan's hem passes; every head bows.
Power without a beard is more like a fan hiding needles.

I mend the young prince's torn sleeve,
but cannot mend the dark seam of fratricide in his fate.

At night, rosewater floods the copper basin.

Beneath the quilts, our accents smuggle childhood home.
Some dream of Caucasian snow, some of Balkan rain.

You stand at the door, calling my childhood name.

Your voice cannot cross my palm,
a small land the empire never mapped.

Mother, no envoy may carry this letter.

Palace walls keep secrets well—and devour names.

If one day the dynasty lifts its shadow from the window,
let her send it for me—to freedom not yet born.

After the Empire Dies, the Coffee Is Still Bitter

In 1922, the throne loses its verb.
The last sultan leaves by ship.
Topkapı hands its power to glass cases.
The jewels still shine, but no longer command bowed heads.
The city wakes republican; old flags are folded away.
Former decrees slowly learn irrelevance on paper.
At the corner, a coffee pot still simmers night over low flame.
The empire has not died; it has only been ground finer.
An old man carries unsweetened coffee to the window.
At the bottom lie three continents, caravan roads, and sea wind.
Coffeehouses once sheltered storytellers, chess players, whispered dissent;
today they shelter uneasy silence.
Beyond the domes, ferries stitch Europe to Asia, then tear them apart.
The Bosphorus mourns no dynasty.
The call to prayer still crosses roofs; gulls still steal bread.
History's joke is that ordinary people must still pay the bill.
Some read marriage in the coffee grounds.
I see borders shrink, while bitterness refuses retreat.
Old script withdraws to archives; new letters take the street.
Language changes shoes, then crosses the bazaar barefoot.
What the empire leaves may be neither throne nor sword,
but two strangers sharing a pot over slow fire.
When the last black sip settles at the tongue's root,
we learn: a state dies quickly; a civilization takes centuries to swallow.

Noreen
Snyder

The Year of the Poet XIII August 2026



The Year of the Poet XIII August 2026

Noreen Ann Snyder has been writing since she was a teenager. She writes a variety of different topics. Her favorite poetic forms are Sonnets, Blitz, Haiku, Tanka, and Free Verse. She always learning different poetic forms.

Noreen Ann Snyder is a poet, writer, and an author of five books, (four books are co-authored with her late husband, Garry A. Snyder.) Her poetry is in several Inner Child Press Anthologies. She is the founder of The Poetry Club on Facebook.

Baki

Mahmud Abdalbaki, known as Baki,
A medieval Ottoman Turkish poet, is
One of the greatest contributors
To Turkish literature,
Well-known as “Sultan of poets.”
He’s well-loved by all who knew him.
He’s famous for his ghazals of
Love, nature, and beauty;
And famous for his poem,
“Kanuni Sultan Suleyman’s Elegy.”
His master poet teacher, Zati,
Gave Abdalbaki,
His pen name, Baki,
Which means “that which endures.”

Endless Possibilities

Congratulations, Georgina!
You did it!
I'm so proud of you.
Soon you'll be on your own.
Please be careful,
It's a cruel world out there.
Watch your surroundings
At all times.
You can be anything you want to be.
Endless possibilities.
As you go to college
And make your way in this world,
Just know we all are on your side,
Rooting for you,
No matter the path you choose.
Just be careful,
It's a cold, cruel world out there.
Watch your surroundings.
Stand up for what you believe in.
Don't back down.
Believe in yourself.
As you get older,
life will throw you a punch or two
Over and over again;
Just don't give up.
When you fall, stand up,
Dust yourself off and
Try, try again until you succeed.
Don't be afraid of falling,
Making mistakes. We all do.
No one is perfect;
Only God and Jesus are.
You are somebody!

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You are you, special
And don't let anyone
Tell you any differently.
Most important of all,
You're never too old or too young
To live your dreams,
Learn something new or
Do something new.
You got this, Georgina.
We believe in you
And we love you.
Now go and show the world who you are.

Love is Eternal

Love is eternal
Love is coeternal
Love captures the beauty
In everything
Love is you and me.
Love doesn't care
About our imperfections,
Love sees beauty in it.
Love is contagious.
Love will light up
Like a firefly,
Glowing with aurora.
You can't help
But see the shine.
Love is not blind
Love sees everything
Love doesn't care
About your imperfections,
Love just wants you to be
Faithful, loyal, and true.

The Year of the Poet XIII August 2026

Elizabeth
E.
Castillo

The Year of the Poet XIII August 2026



The Year of the Poet XIII August 2026

Elizabeth Esguerra Castillo is a multi-awarded and an Internationally-Published Contemporary Author/Poet and a Professional Writer / Creative Writer / Feature Writer / Journalist / Travel Writer from the Philippines. She has 2 published books, "Seasons of Emotions" (UK) and "Inner Reflections of the Muse", (USA). Elizabeth is also a co-author to more than 60 international anthologies in the USA, Canada, UK, Romania, India. She is a Contributing Editor of Inner Child Magazine, USA and an Advisory Board Member of Reflection Magazine, an international literary magazine. She is a member of the American Authors Association (AAA) and PEN International.

Web links:

Facebook Fan Page

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Beneath the Crescent Sky

History does not sleep;
it breathes beneath forgotten stones,
where the echoes of prayer
still rise with the dawn.
The Ottoman Empire—
a tapestry stitched
with conquest and compassion,
with swords that carved borders
and hands that raised domes
toward heaven's patient light.
I walk its ancient pathways
not as a judge of time,
but as a seeker of voices
hidden beneath centuries of dust.
Every empire
is a lesson written in sand;
the wind remembers
what crowns often forget.
Yet beauty survives—
in blue-tiled mosques,
in whispered verses,
in markets fragrant with memory.
For even after kingdoms fade,
the soul of a civilization
continues to bloom
inside the hearts
of those who remember.

The Minarets Remember

The minarets remember
what history books cannot hold.
They have watched
emperors rise
with dreams brighter than gold,
only to surrender
to the quiet certainty of time.
Still, their shadows stretch
across rivers and gardens,
where tulips once welcomed spring
as poets gathered
to speak of love, faith, and destiny.
The Ottoman sky
was never merely a kingdom.
It was a meeting place
of continents,
where languages embraced,
where merchants carried stories
far beyond the reach of maps.
I listen
to those ancient echoes.
They tell me
that greatness is never measured
by the height of palaces,
but by the kindness
left behind
when the banners are lowered.
History fades.
Humanity remains.

When Empires Become Poetry

One day
every throne becomes silence.
The jeweled crowns,
the marble halls,
the triumphs celebrated
by countless voices
will rest beside forgotten names.
So it was
with the Ottoman Empire.
Yet beyond the pages of history,
its spirit lingers
in architecture that kisses the sky,
in calligraphy flowing
like rivers of devotion,
in music that still cradles
the longing of distant generations.
I do not mourn
the passing of empires.
I honor
the lessons they leave behind.
For every civilization
is a mirror,
reflecting both the brilliance
and the fragility
of the human heart.
Perhaps that is why
I write these words—
not to resurrect kingdoms,
but to remind tomorrow
that power is temporary,
while beauty, wisdom,
and compassion
are the only legacies
that truly endure.

Mutawaf Shaheed

The Year of the Poet XIII August 2026



The Year of the Poet XIII August 2026

C. E. Shy has been writing since the seventh grade. He continued writing through high school, until he became more involved in sports. After his graduation, he worked at the White Motors Company where he wrote for the company's newspaper. He started a column called: "The Poet's Corner." That was his first published work.

www.innerchildpress.com/c-e-shy.php

The Ottomans

Then came along the Uthmanic Empire.
Century after century they didn't expire.
Ruling the world with iron grip. There was
justice meted out with an equal hand. All
was done with the Islamic plan.

Establishing and maintaining the traditions
throughout the lands. Innovators, scientist,
poets, educators upgrading the world to
become a better place for every child,
woman and man.

Invented things we still use today. Words of
wisdom we can still hear and read. Doctors,
engineers, left ideas that we can prove by
delving into the history of great rulers, of great
places that the evidence of which remains.

Too many titles and names to remember the
recorded deeds of their practices will be one day
be read. Maybe one day we will be able to say,
they 're coming back this way.

Designs

The morning started off with me knocking on your door, then I began further thinking and contemplating how I'd get with you. I see your position, you may be too far for me to reach, too remote for me to teach. Removing my ego from the frame. I ask myself, how being with me can possibly make your life better?

Hours last longer than minutes. Real time for me is what can be bought to the table. I see you as already being stable. Desires and imagination have its place. It won't work in this case. I don't have to think twice anymore. I am not able to mine the candy in my head. It escapes me at this moment what some poet said.

Under certain circumstances words get tangled up in my head. When I look at you, I'd like to dig deeper, what I feel makes me want explore more. The older me asks , what for? Here I am standing at the delivery door, you're living here on the penthouse floor. I don't dream a lot , not like I did before.

I'm not going on these trips that have no benefits. Back to my truck, I'll try my luck at the numbers store. I should not have even looked your way. I started on this trip today in your parking garage. When I delivered the package, I came back empty handed. I couldn't come up with what my thoughts demanded.

I don't get the same breaks, can't make the same mistakes as I did when I was little boy. My thoughts keep drifting back to you. What seems to continue to linger, are foolish things like, what it could have been, things like, if only I could... The script wasn't mine flip. At least I was able to get some more over time! I'll just have to roll with that.

Honed In

I'm hardly ever here. I'm always traveling with my words. We leave sometimes in the middle of the night, catch late flights to some places we never heard. No special effects to include sounds of some birds. No terms or conditions or restrictions on the use of verbs. Midway we change directions to somewhere absurd.

Weathering emotional storms that flair up now and then. No ink gets involved. No difference between tomorrow or today. We don't wait on tacit approval from anybody or anywhere! We even encountered some wishful thinking. Leaning on dreams that seem to know the way. I spent fifteen seconds being sixteen again the other day. Plowing through the thoughts of others.

Unable to fill their empty spaces. Passing by pronouns and tree trunks that used to have leaves. There are letters that come along for the ride. Caught up with things I should leave behind. Watched some weak people waiting on validation. Wanting to be recognized. Some J B's thought they had deceived me.

The words had fore warned me. Building bridges on sentence structures, restructurings fairy tales hidden in the newspaper headlines. Couldn't get rid of some of the adventures that stuck in my pen. My mind keeps coming up with new stuff.

Looked for places where beasts were banned. Somebody else's words tried to gum up the works. The words and I fell in love with women, chased after whims. Then, I got stopped by being ten again, .that included cotton candy and Xmas stockings. Expressions allowed me to spend time with my grandma Shy. Great grandma Nanny.

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WOW, came out in red. I wanted to stay, had to be on my way to the other side of the world, Sleeping only took a few minutes. I don't know if things were fast or slow? Words showed me how to cover beaches with nouns and give them proper names. We would call things names we'd name along the way.

Fly high pass by ideas. We wrote a love story about a southern girl. I would have married in a heartbeat. The words said, I loved her. We just couldn't write a happy ending. We were not able to work things out. Words could not explain. Okay then, back to where I started.

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hülya
n.
yılmaz

The Year of the Poet XIII August 2026



The Year of the Poet XIII August 2026

Liberal Arts Professor Emerita, hülya n. yılmaz [sic] is Co-Chair and Director of Editing Services at Inner Child Press International, a published author, ghostwriter, and translator (EN, DE, and TU; in any direction). Her literary contributions appeared in a large number of national and international anthologies.

hülya writes creatively to attain and nourish a comprehensive awareness for and development of our humanity.

hülya n. yılmaz, a traveler on the journey called “life” . . .

Writing Web Site

<https://hulyanyilmaz.com/>

Editing Web Site

<https://hulyasfreelancing.com>

Divan Poetry

Spanning from the 14th
To the early 20th century,
Demonstrating a rich literary language,
Mysticism and a multi-tiered literary tradition . . .
Such is the Ottoman poetic art.

Yet, ask around among modern-day Europeans,
If they know anything about the Ottomans at all,
They would sing the war blues, “The Turks are coming,
The Turks are coming!”

Fact: The Ottoman Empire collapsed on the first day
Of November 1922. As for “the Turks” . . . who did not
Exist during any of the centuries in which the said Empire
reigned, attained their country, The Republic of Turkey,
In 1923.

Muhibbi

Hence, the pen name of
Suleiman the Magnificent . . .

Whose few poetic lines
Came to us in English:

*My woman of the beautiful hair,
My love of the slanted brow,
My love of eyes full of misery . . .*

I'll sing your praises always.

*I, lover of the tormented heart,
Muhibbi of the eyes full of tears,
I am happy.*

Suleiman the Magnificent . . .
The Ottoman Sultan whose 46-year reign
Has been etched into world history books
As “a Golden Age.”

Ask any innocent but informed bystander about Muhibbi,
S/he will cite what the masses have been and
Are still being taught:
“A great military leader.”
“What about his poetry?”
“What poetry?”

Mihri Hatun

A thoroughly famed female poet
Of the Ottoman Empire . . .
The first in the compilation and presentation
Of her own *Divan* . . .
The first Ottoman woman to vehemently claim her space
In literary circles dominated by males . . .
The first to openly use her poetic art in expressing
The female view on solely for male-only themes
Of love and intellect . . .

Teresa
E.
Gallion

The Year of the Poet XIII August 2026



The Year of the Poet XIII August 2026

Teresa E. Gallion is a seeker on a journey to work on unfolding spiritually in this present lifetime. Writing is a spiritual exercise for Teresa. Her passions are traveling the world and hiking the mountain and desert landscapes of the western United States. Her journeys into nature are nurtured by the Sufi poets Rumi and Hafiz. The land is sacred ground and her spiritual temple where she goes for quiet reflection and contemplation. She has published five books: *Walking Sacred Ground*, *Contemplation in the High Desert*, *Chasing Light*, a finalist in the 2013 New Mexico/Arizona Book Awards, *Scent of Love*, a finalist in the 2021 New Mexico/Arizona Book Awards and *Come Egypt* in 2024. She has two CDs, *On the Wings of the Wind* and *Poems from Chasing Light*. Her work has appeared in numerous journals and anthologies.

Website: <http://teresagallion.yolasite.com/>

Fall of Constantinople

The city awakens to a storm of fire.
The morning pulse of an empire
is shutting down.

The sea waves bleed tears of loss.
Defenders of the wall watch the approach
of the death torches.

The city shutters under the weight of thunder.
A quiet that lingers in the air
whispers in the ears of time.

A powerful city is broken.
History marks the transition
of the fall of an empire.

Safe Harbor

They sit in the harbor
bound by fear,
resist the first step
toward the unknown,

comfortably embrace
the anxiety in their bones,
blaming each other
for their personal pain.

A convenient excuse
not to face their own demons.
Such inertia, a force
akin to mankind

bleeds on the floorboards
where the crowd mentality rules.
A few negative voices
incite the masses.

Everyone praises the hangman's rope,
cheer placement around a comrade's neck.
All squeeze their individual trepidation,
strut their false bravery.

They all genuflect together
before a broken body
and return to the safe harbor
of debilitating fear.

Wounded Warrior

He rolls in on his walker
covering the last mile of his journey.
A bold red tie symbolizes the blood
left with his death by the gun.

The diamond in his lapel
glitters with resurrection.
No bullet can stop
a man touched by the light.

Flashbacks to the foxhole
burning light on his chest
make him smile the victor's cheese.
He approaches the mic

with a searing glance
into the dark audience
where pin drops sing in his honor.
He feels the heat of anticipation

of every breathing soul
seated in the darkness.
That foxhole reminds him
anything is possible

when the heart light is pure.
He touches the mic and says,
Good evening, friends.
A wounded warrior rises.

He drops to his knees.
My gratitude to each of you,
I am the miracle of rebirth
and the crowd cheers.

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Words cannot tell the story
of a warrior rising
from life's battle flames
encircled in the light of Spirit.

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Ashok
K.
Bhargava



The Year of the Poet XIII August 2026

Ashok Bhargava is a poet, writer, inspirational speaker and a literary consultant. He has attended poetry conferences in Italy, Turkey, India and Philippines. His latest book "Riding the Tide" about his battle with cancer has been translated and published in Arabic, Hindi, Telugu and Bengali languages. He is a contributing writer to several anthologies worldwide including World Poetry Almanac 2014. He has been published in numerous print and online magazines.

Ashok has won many accolades including Poet Ambassador to Japan, Kalidasa International award, World Poetry Lifetime Achievement award, Writers Beyond Borders Peace award and Tapsilog Leadership award for his community involvement. He is founder of Writers International Network Canada Society to discover, nourish, recognize and celebrate writers, poets and artists and to assist them to network with the community at large. He is the author of eight books of poetry and one anthology. He is Artist-in-Residence at Moberly Arts & Cultural Centre and also co-edits the literary section of The Link Newspaper.

The Bosphorus

Europe and Asia
lean toward one another
across the narrow Bosphorus—
bays and coves,
wooded hills,
palaces,
ancient fortresses—
the spine of the earth
holding the seas together,
their opposing currents
passing through each other,
never at rest.

A nothing of air
where no one belongs,
yet where continents,
Ottoman dreams,
and histories
briefly meet.

Between two shores,
what seems to divide
becomes
another way
of belonging.

The Moon Cannot Hide

Some nights, the wind
gathers
every cloud
to obscure the dawn.
This is a tale of my
eyes searching
for light
on a pitch-dark night.
Every silence
tests my faith,
yet the horizon
keeps its promise.
I know it is there.
If truth is not enough,
what is?
Listen carefully—
you cannot hide,
O moon.

Morning Walks with Me

Morning winds blow gentle kisses,
while trees sway softly
like a shy ballerina—
dressed in green silence,
turning to unseen music
only I can hear.
Sunrays lean closer,
caressing without a word,
as I absolve myself
in a fleeting moment of grace.

Caroline
'Ceri Naz'
Nazareno
Gabis

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Caroline ‘Ceri Naz’ Nazareno-Gabis, author of *Velvet Passions of Calibrated Quarks*, World Poetry Canada International Director to Philippines is a multi-awarded poet, editor, journalist, educator, peace and women’s advocate. She believes that learning other’s language and culture is a doorway to wisdom.

Among her poetic belts include **Gabrielle Galloni Memorial Panorama International Youth Award** 2022, Panorama Youth Literary Awards 2020, 7th Prize Winner in the 19th, 20th and 21st Italian Award of Literary Festival; Writers International Network-Canada ‘Amazing Poet 2015’, The Frang Bardhi Literary Prize 2014 (Albania), Poet Journalist Award 2014 (Tuzla, Istanbul, Turkey) and World Poetry Empowered Poet 2013 (Vancouver, Canada). She’s a featured member of Association of Women’s Rights and Development (AWID), The Poetry Posse, Galaktika Poetike, Asia Pacific Writers and Translators (APWT), Axlepino and Anacbanua. Her poetry and children’s stories have been featured in different anthologies and magazines worldwide.

Links to her works:

<http://panitikan.ph/2018/03/30/caroline-nazareno-gabis/>

https://apwriters.org/author/ceri_naz/

<http://www.aveviajera.org/nacionesunidasdelasletras/id1181.html>

The Sultan of the Poets

The Ottoman Empire was a kinetic flame
Where Suleiman forged grandest courts,
And Baki ruled in sovereign voice,
Through cosmic words turn stars in space,
And ruby lips softly rise to kiss,
Ghazals enforce order with rhyme,
Syntax holds gravity,
From mundane to celestial mosques,
Defying times' corrosive dust,
From the death of The Magnificent,
The Poetry of Life solidifies the immortal pen.

Dissolution

The borders of the skin dissolve like mist,
And footsteps lose their heavy, human weight,
Don't press it hard upon the clay,
But whispering to the dark and dreaming roots.
You do not merely look upon the trees;
You feel the canopy expand and fall,
And realize the rhythm of your breath,
Is moving with the green and rising tide.
An ancient, quiet truth begins to wake:
You are no passing traveler in the woods,
No casual visitor upon the shore.
You are the waking earth, alive and whole,
Now turning back to look upon itself.

Obdormition

Static frost settles on the skin
A silent pinch creeps within.
The signal drops, the circuit breaks,
Before the sudden phantom wakes.
This phantom limb of tiny marbles,
Where pulse and motion are unknown.
The tether frayed, the anchor cast,
Nameless numbness holds my mind,
Then rushes in the sudden spark,
Like shooting stars across the dark.
A thousand needles buried deep.
Like the pain kept for years,
Unforgiven, yet loved.

Swapna Behera

The Year of the Poet XIII August 2026



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Swapna Behera is a trilingual poet, translator, environmentalist, editor from India and author of seven books of different genres including one on children's literature on Environment. She is the recipient of International UGADI AWARD 2019, honoured from Gujarat Sahitya Akademi 2022, 2021 International Poesis Award of Honor as Jury, Pentasi B World Fellow Poet, Honoured Poet of India from Seychelles Government and International awards from Algeria, Morocco, Kajhakhstan, modern Arabic Literary Renaissance of Egypt, International Arts Council Argentina etc. Her stories, poems, articles are published in many International and National magazines and ezines. Her poem A NIGHT IN THE REFUGEE CAMP is translated into 67 languages. She has received over 60 National and International Awards. At present she is the Cultural Ambassador for India and South Asia of Inner Child and the life member of Odisha Environmental Society

Email

swapna.behera@gmail.com

Web Site

<http://swapnabehera.in/>

The Ottomans: bridging East and West

the longest lasting
transcontinental dynasty
a legacy builder
bridging east and west
contributed
surgical innovation
smallpox vaccination
decimal point notation
carpet weaving
and
calligraphy
pioneer of pluralism
ethnic communities
who had secular laws
invented survey maps
world's first coffee house
millet system of Governance
sophisticated Divan poetry
a combination of Islamic mysticism
and romance
complex symbolism
having metaphysical depth
Sultan Suleiman a poet himself
wrote under pen name Muhibbi
"I will sing your praises always "

{ Muhibbi- lover }

who has crossed the border?

the last soliloquy is screaming
the lava wrote the epitaph of violence
caste, colour, gender, religion
all created by cowards
to buy or sell the integrity
at different time zones
democracy whistles
sings eternal songs
of lush pasture greens
but now the paradox everywhere
the tax payers are screaming
across the terraces
the multicolour bougainvillaea
the advertisement of beauty products in the T.V
the masks are hanging here and there
democracy without dialogues
is just helium balloons on fire
living beings can never be mannequins
a king is sitting on the throne
who doesn't know
the language of humanity
all benedictions cannot be hymns
the stratosphere is sobbing
corruption screeches
scams, unemployment everywhere
I can cry at least
dedicate my tears for the youth
they have the feelings
in solidarity with you dear children
I beg apology
for I couldn't give you a better soil
you are fearless
you are curious

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you know your rights
my timid voice
I record here
before my death
just ask millions of questions
why, why and why.....
to the dictator
sitting on the skeletons
crushing your dignity
put a big STOP to the cacophony

God is on the way

just wait
God is on the way
from the so-called Heaven
to this mega meeting place
sick, healthy
rich and poor
man or woman
gathered
with their petitions
for money, honey
and
sunny days
best robes of multicolours
to impress HIM with gifts
of flowers, gold, fruits,
tasty cuisines
water from holy rivers
samiyanas, microphones
all ready
media houses alert
for tomorrow's newspaper coverage
pre plans and post plans
security, helicopters, ambulances
all standby arrangements
God came, smiled
people's grievance cell active
politicians, shopkeepers, entrepreneurs
students, mothers
from all communities
rushed, ran
to speak sorrows unlimited
beg life, health and power
lo behold!

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God whispered
“dear men and women
forgive me
this time you have to give me
I am tired
take my tears
help me to sustain smiles”

Albert
'Infinite'
Carrasco

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Albert “Infinite The Poet” Carrasco is an urban poet, mentor and public speaker.

Albert believes his experience of growing up in poverty, dealing with drugs and witnessing murder over and over were lessons learnt, in order to gain knowledge to teach. Albert’s harsh reality and honesty is a powerfully packed punch delivered through rhyme. Infinite grew up in the east part of the Bronx and still resides there, so he knows many young men will follow the same dark path he followed looking for change. The life of crime should never be an option to being poor but it is, very often.

Infinite poetry @lulu.com

Alcarrasco2 on YouTube

Infinite the poet on reverbnation

Infinite Poetry

www.lulu.com/us/en/shop/al-infinite-carrasco/infinite-poetry/paperback/product-21040240.html

www.innerchildpress.com/albert-carrasco

The Ottomans

For over 600 years the janissaries were feared, during that time they had parts of Europe, Asia and Africa in a chokehold, opposition knew souls couldn't be sold to invade Constantinople.

The founder was an and the ruler of the government was Sultan, music, poetry and craftsmanship was a big part of their culture and the dominant practiced religion was Islam.

The crescent moon was a symbol of power and faith, domes reached over the sky to stare at heavens face. Wealth ran rampant, architectural science was apparent. The Ottoman Empire was founded in Anatolia and spreads through out neighboring areas. Since its birth by the fifteen hundreds. They built walls to defend from invading wars. They were strong and kept strength for very long, although history says they were defeated, nothing or no one can conquer their passed down legacy. They've fought many battles and won but the empire dissolved after World War One.

Written Imagery

I write imagery and spit pictures, I show poverty by using signs like ASL to tell you I'm hungry with body movement, hands and fingers gestures, I just do it with visual scriptures.

A cold breeze blew the stench of no more tomorrows in the air and it was summer... that's murder.

There's no reason to tally days because this residency is a permanent stay, the only way it's going to be over is when the count is missing a number forever... that's a lifer

They used to look up and see concrete, now they see the sky. The sun, moon and stars are the ceiling, there's nowhere outside to put a welcome mat to give that warm welcoming feeling... that's homelessness.

My Forte

When it comes to the street life facade, the ink in my pen becomes a corrective lens.

I was looking through hungry eyes, at the end I had to digest the loss of my sandbox friends. I can't lie, we knew the probability of returning to God or spending decades reminiscing on what was and could've been in yards. We was hoping to live financially free if we beat the odds, we moved on hope because bearing the reality of broken yesterdays was too hard. I walked the same hellish surface as dead men and lifers but was saved on purpose to fulfill my purpose. I'm shedding light on darkness, my foresight gives vision to blindness... this is a portrait of what my forte is.

Kimberly
Burnham

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A brain health expert (PhD in Integrative Medicine) and award-winning poet, Kimberly Burnham lives with her wife and family in Spokane, Washington. Kim speaks extensively on peace, brain health, and *"Awakenings: Peace Dictionary, Language and the Mind, a Daily Brain Health Program."* She recently published *"Heschel and King Marching to Montgomery A Jewish Guide to Judeo-Tamarian Imagery."* Currently work includes *"Call and Response To Maya Stein an Anthology of Wild Writing"* and a how-to non-fiction book, *"Using Ekphrastic Fiction Writing and Poetry to Create Interest and Promote Artists, Writers, and Poets."*

Follow her at <https://amzn.to/4fcWnRB>

The Tulip's Desire

Tulips set the mind on fire
beautiful driving desire
we believe ourselves in command
still the blossom lights our fire

In Turkey for Two Weeks

Each day in Turkey: I asked "Who knew?"
turquoise came from Turkey too
first called Turkish quartz, they say
with speed became turquoise green blue

Turkish Flowers

Poppies line the Turkish path
tulips ring Blue Mosque in color bath
stolen west, they crazed the Dutch
now Portland blooms a new path

Eliza
Segiet

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The Year of the Poet XIII August 2026

Eliza Segiet graduated with a Master's Degree in Philosophy at Jagiellonian University.

Received *Global Literature Guardian Award* – from Motivational Strips, World Nations Writers Union and Union Hispanomundial De Escritores (UHE) 2018.

Nominated for the Pushcart Prize 2019, 2021.

Laureate *Naji Naaman Literary Prize 2020*,

International Award Paragon of Hope (2020),

World Award 2020 *Cesar Vallejo* for Literary Excellence. Laureate of the Special Jury *Sahitto International Award* 2021, World Award *Premiul Fănuș Neagu* 2021.

Finalist *Golden Aster Book World Literary Prize 2020*, *Mili Dueli* 2022, *Voci nel deserto* 2022.

At the international Festival of Poetry CAMPIONATO MONDIALE DI POESIA (2021/2022) she won the title of vice-champion of the world.

Award BHARAT RATNA RABINDRANATH TAGORE INTERNATIONAL AWARD (2022).

Award - *World Poets Association* (2023).

Laureate Between words and infinity “*International Literary Award* (2023).

Applause

Strange were the times
when rulers,
to keep the throne for themselves,
– annihilated their own siblings.

Strange were the times
when for the slightest offense
Sultan Selim the Grim
would have his own viziers shot.
They would never know
when their day would come.
Just in case,
– they carried their wills
in their pockets.

Strange were the times
when a condemned man
could demand a trial
instead of an execution –
on the condition
that he would run, breathless and battered,
toward the city gates,
the executioner
pounding the earth behind him.
If the condemned outran him,
– he won his pardon.

Times have changed,
yet many forms of madness endure:
– wars,
– hatred,
– intolerance,

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all in the name of proving
that even the cruellest ideas
will always find
their applause.

Translated by Dorota Stępińska

The Shell

When the time
of good thoughts came,
he understood
that he had been trapped in
the apocalyptic visions of
future with no future.

Now he knows
that a man scarred from the inside
needs not only time
to recover.
He saw that
the doctor of soul
helps to survive,
enabling to change cold thoughts
into the ones that
strengthen existence.
Give hope.

And, what's most important,
planning tomorrow becomes possible again.

Only when
the shell of aversion to the world cracked,
and everything around started to glow,
did he begin to see
the future in the future.

Translated by Dorota Stepieńska

Stairs

Entangled in their own problems
they solve them on their own.
Decisions taken before
have become
the horrors of the past in the present.

They couldn't call for help.
Tears were for nothing when their anguish grew,
their voiceless cry
flowed like a rushing river.

When hope was gone,
helping others
began to thin their darkness.

They no longer had to expect anything.
The good was climbing higher and higher
– up the stairs –
which had been out of reach before.

Translated by Dorota Stępińska

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Khalice
Jade

The Year of the Poet XIII August 2026



The Year of the Poet XIII August 2026

Khalice Jade, born Saliha Ragad, is an International Peace Ambassador, author, and engaged philosopher. Awarded the Excellence Prize for Peace in France at age 11 and recognized by the newspaper *La Voix du Nord*, she has published over thirty personal works and contributed to fifteen international anthologies, eight of which she directed. Passionate about cultural diversity and human understanding, she uses poetry and prose to inspire, encourage reflection, and promote peace, celebrating the richness of human experience and sharing a universal message of openness, harmony, and compassion.

The Sails Of The Bazaar

Beneath colored roofs where a thousand sails float,
The scents of spices rise and intertwine;
Merchants' steps glide lightly through the line
Of alleys where royal dreams quietly gloat.
Lamps are lit, revealing whispered tales,
And hands murmur stories of hidden delights;
Each fabric, each gem, awakens the sights
Of a world where commerce softly exhales.
Thus the bazaar's soul lives and invites,
Confidante of glances, laughter, and hands;
And the city sleeps beneath the clear moonlight.
In evening's breath and morning's bright gleam,
I keep in mind that infinite perfume,
And the song of colors that endlessly beam.

The Legacy Of The Minarets

Minarets rise into the tranquil sky,
Guarding the city and its intertwined lives;
The wind carries prayers, and thought survives,
While time bows under their subtle sigh.
Domes shine like polished suns on high,
Marble breathes centuries into memory;
In secret courtyards, flowers bloom in glory,
And fountains' whispers reveal every tie.
Thus Ottoman spirit sings and unfolds,
Confidante of the past and hidden molds;
Man learns to read the breath of the stones.
And I, in silence through proud avenues,
Hear the city's gentle song awaken,
And ancient worlds illuminate my views.

The Sceptre And The Rose

Beneath the gaze of sultans and gilded halls,
Time flows between gardens and embroidered rugs;
Poets whisper to winds, meditative, snug,
And history is carved in vibrant, colorful walls.
Mosques ascend toward the perfect sky,
Marble and mosaics reveal their art;
Market voices echo in every part,
And life blooms where ancient echoes lie.
Thus the empire stands, vast and sublime,
Confidante of ages and silent rhyme;
Man learns respect and light in its array.
In the splendor of nights and morning beams,
I touch Ottoman soul and its dreams,
And centuries' breath embraces my hands.

William
S.
Peters Sr.

The Year of the Poet XIII August 2026



The Year of the Poet XIII August 2026

Bill's writing career spans a period of well over 50 years. Being first Published in 1972, Bill has since went on to Author in excess of 50+ additional Volumes of Poetry, Short Stories, etc., expressing his thoughts on matters of the Heart, Spirit, Consciousness and Humanity. His primary focus is that of Love, Peace and Understanding!

Bill says . . .

I have always likened Life to that of a Garden. So, for me, Life is simply about the Seeds we Sow and Nourish. All things we "Think and Do", will "Be" Cause and eventually manifest itself to being an "Effect" within our own personal "Existences" and "Experiences" . . . whether it be Fruit, Flowers, Weeds or Barren Landscapes! Bill highly regards the Fruits of his Labor and wishes that everyone would thus go on to plant "Lovely" Seeds on "Good Ground" in their own Gardens of Life!

to connect with Bill, he is all things Inner Child

www.iaminnerchild.com

Personal Web Site

www.iamjustbill.com

Ottoman

I have often sat on this type of low cushioned chair
At my Grandma's house

She never fed my curious mind
Pertaining its origin

Granddaddy often propped his feet upon it
Whole lounging and watching TV

Here I am a 75 (finally) with a curiosity
To understand the nature
Of its origin,
Though I have long assumed
It was something from the empire
That ruled the world
At some significant point in history

.....
As it turns out,
I was right in my assessment,
And I feel good about that,
So let me take this time
To thank the conquerors of the world
For this fun liite chair
Also know as a hassock

i am . . . absolved

the Demons of Darkness
are dancing with glee
for the Children
have not yet fully awakened

the bells on the Steeple
are still ringing
calling home all who have forsaken
their Cosmic Birthright
in the midst of this night
adorned with things
which ushers forth the grande delusion

and the collusion betwixt the fallen
the conspiracy
found within their heresy
has stifled the sound
the sound of the calling
which we have been waiting for
for so many eons

my soul is screaming
let us arise
let us get up
let us dance in the night
let us dance in the light
of the distant memories
and the faintly twinkling Stars
and the liquid luminescence of the Moon
let us dance the dance
of a truth
that is not moved
and is not soothed
by the smooth tongues of deceit

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let us speak that word
known only to the Great Soul
that which resides within me
that word
that has not been heard
since "Life's Tree"
has been planted in the Garden

and
by the Four Rivers i stand
with eyes opened
and out stretched hands
that i may receive
thy blessings Father
anoint me
and
hearken unto my plea
that overflows with the anguish
of illusions endured
and the hunger
for joys still yet desired
that which emanates
within the abysmal depths of me

and i beseech thee
let not death
nor her family of trickery
have its way
nor triumph
this day

for the morrow
when my Sun arises
and recognizes who i am
my sorrow is reconciled
and all vile things

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shall no longer be
for i am awakening
and i most assuredly see
the legacy
of the Bliss filled life
You would have for me
when i commune
and realize
that i am One with Thee

and my Soul Speaks “aye”
and i will not deny
that in a “Twinkling of an Eye”
the lie is vanquished
and the Ancient language of thy love
will be spoken freely once again

we will dance to the tune
and all be it
none to soon
and Truth will forever reign
as my tears rain down
and i submit to the divine acknowledgement
of the presence of the Holy
of all things manifest

i will bask in the light of “BE”ing
seeing
and no longer fleeing
that inner light i could never escape

and i bow in “The Know”
that as the Four Rivers do flow
into Eternity . . . Eternally
that i too am “The Infinite”

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and that i am
as i have always been
yes
“I AM”

and in that moment
when the final Epiphany
greeted my consciousness
with that Sacred Kiss

i am . . . absolved

Revelation

He clasped his hands together
Reaching for a reverent connection,
For he wanted to speak with
His Creator

Over the many years
He often had taken this stance,
But the connections he felt
We're faint in nature

Was this a test of his beliefs,
Or a trial of his faith
That always had his
Heart, soul and consciousness
Perched on the precipice
Of 'almost-ness'?

He knew he needed this,
This connection,
And the more he attempted,
The more he wanted and desired
To be embraced in a knowing
That all is well,
And will be so.

Had he unnecessarily suffered
In the past journey we call life?
Why yes of course,
Who hasn't....
But what is the purpose? ...
Is it about a legacy?
Procreation?
The refinement of his soul? ...
Or something so ambiguous
That it can not be comprehended

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Within the etheric boundaries
Of our empirical selves?

He had meditated,
He practiced as best he could
To immerse his total self
In silence and stillness,
And yes, he prayed.

In spite of his voiced frustrations
He was grateful, thankful and careful
For the most part
About his pathway,
And his ordered and unordered steps
Through Creation's garden.

.....
He enjoyed the fragrance of the flowers of spring,
The hot balmy days of summer,
The bounty,
And the sweet fruit eaten at harvest time,
As well as the respite and rest
During the winter.

Was he being selfish he asked,
Wanting all his life and years
To be naught but Spring and Autumn?

.....
This is the Conundrum he thought ...
We toil in the fields, tilling the soil,
Planting, weeding and nourishing
The crops with a hope
For good things to come,
But we see not the full glory
In the efforts
Unless there is an end- purpose
That our hearts can hold on to

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.....

So I/he asked once again,
Beyond this stance alone,
What is the end-game
To life,
Is it some type of heaven
Where we can ultimately find a lasting peace,
One without worry, or prayers?

....

So
He clasped his hands together
Reaching for a reverent connection,
For he wanted to speak with
His Creator

The Year of the Poet XIII August 2026

August 2026 Featured Poets



Lin Lin

Prabir Kumar Rath

Dr. Ezhil Vendhan

Swayam Prashant

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Lin

Lin

The Year of the Poet XIII August 2026



The Year of the Poet XIII August 2026

Lin Lin is from the Republic of China (Taiwan). She is a university professor of language and literature who has devoted her life to the study of Chinese literature. In addition to teaching, she has a deep passion for writing and has authored a substantial body of professional articles, most of which focus on teaching, literary theory, and related foundational studies. She has also been honored with multiple literary awards.

At the Market's End, the Woman Who Wipes the Dust from Life

Dawn mist clings to the vegetable leaves,
and settles low along the bamboo basket.
A middle-aged woman unfurls a plot of green before her
stall,
water spinach still holding the coolness of the irrigation
ditch,
Taiwanese basil hiding the rain-washed fragrance behind
the house;
red plastic bags are smoothed with care,
letter after letter, all unsent messages home,
their creases filled with roads leading toward the city.
Her children dwell far away, in the rivers of light of Taipei
and Kaohsiung,
and from the telephone's far shore, only brief greetings
remain.
Yet here are the peeled fibers of taro stems,
the white steam of savory congee rolling through morning,
an empty bowl,
growing old quietly beside the table.
She speaks no longing, only binds the scallions straight;
she tells no ache, only asks softly: Have you eaten?
That is the deepest grammar beneath this island's eaves,
more patient than any vow plainly spoken.
At the temple mouth, the golden brazier breathes faint
sandalwood ash,
the fishmonger's water slaps across the concrete floor.
In her sleeves are hidden field mud and years,
and the vacant places of bowls left by children gone away.
At closing time, sunset falls on the rough black skin of taro,
and one by one, she brushes the dust from life.
At last she keeps two bundles of greens,
so night may still have a road leading back to the table.

The Hearth Fire Remembers Only the Old Woman's Name

The hearth wakes before the rooster cries,
stretching a golden pulse inside the belly of the red-brick
stove.

Longan wood splits with a small sound,
as years turn softly in the dark.

The old woman bends to feed the fire,
her apron tied into an ancient, steady knot.

A pot of white porridge is helped by flame into morning,
a jar of preserved radish keeps the family's voice in salt;
rice paddle, clay bowls, bamboo chopsticks, each has its
silent order,

as though they were the smallest court on earth,
issuing no decrees,

only teaching hunger how to come home.

Children once took warmth and fullness from here,
a daughter-in-law once carried endurance from here,
and the old companion's medicinal tea once turned faintly
sweet by the stove.

Yet what the firelight truly remembers
is not the footsteps of those who came and went,
but those hands reaching daily, on time, into wood ash.

Those hands do not explain life,

they only boil the water,

soften the rice,

and cook loneliness into mornings and dusks one can
swallow.

The old woman's heart is clear as a pool on a rain-washed
field ridge,

not vying with heaven for color, only quietly reflecting
clouds.

When years offer salt, she makes it soup;

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when fate hands her wrinkles, she kneads them into the
scent of rice.
Beneath Eastern eaves, tenderness is unused to speaking
aloud,
it only keeps the stove from cold, and lets dusk return to the
scent of supper.
Thus flame is never merely flame,
but the afterglow of an old woman who has lit a whole life.

Mother Never Says Love; She Only Sun-Dries the Quilt Fragrant

Mother does not like to hang love upon her lips.
It would be too bright,
too much like a holiday shop window,
while in the houses of this island,
deep affection often chooses to walk low.
A winter morning clears,
a bamboo pole crosses the light in the courtyard,
and the quilt is spread open, like a soft field.
Sunlight sinks into the depth of cotton,
storing warmth in advance for night;
beside the red-brick wall, bougainvillea lets down purple-
red whispers,
the sound of scooters passes through the lane's mouth into
morning,
sparrows peck at grains of rice beside the drain cover.
A dog turns under the eaves, dreaming of the south wind.
Mother beats the quilt,
dust rises for a moment, then is slowly gathered back by
light.
All the toil never spoken aloud
appears and hides itself in just this way,
like silent snow falling upon the warmest place at home.
She says no fondness, only tells us not to catch cold at
night;
she speaks no yearning, only folds the quilt corners neat.
In Eastern families, love raises no monument,
nor is it skilled at reading the heart aloud as roses,
it only preserves one warm place in the dark.
Only when a face is buried deep in the quilt
does one smell the sun, soap, and wind,
and more than these, a pair of silent hands,
still smoothing the edges of dreams for those who drift.

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Prabir
Kumar
Rath

The Year of the Poet XIII August 2026



The Year of the Poet XIII August 2026

Mr. Prabir Kumar Rath is an international poet, who had started writing poems in the year 1986, when he was a student of class eight. He has invented the art of winning English poems using numerics in lines of poetry instead of words. He has taken retirement from the service of Tata Motors Mumbai location in 2021 on his own accord. He is originally from Jhargram District West Bengal. Now he is engaged in teaching profession in his own institute named - The Raths' Institute.

When Thee Knelt Before Her Silence

Was it love—
Or some lunatic scripture
Written by a blind god's bleeding hand?
For when you arrived,
Even Time forgot
How to command.

You came not walking—
No, you descended
Like dusk upon a dying sea,
Like a forbidden hymn
Escaping softly
From eternity.

And I—
A vagabond of fractured skies,
A pilgrim drunk on endless why's,
Stood speechless beneath
Your cathedral eyes.

O woman!
Your silence had sharper edges
Than a prophet's curse;
Your whisper could resurrect spring
Or make the heavens rehearse
Their oldest grief in reverse.

The moon became a beggar
Outside your window's light;
Stars tore their silver garments
To imitate your night.
Even roses, vain and red,
Lowered their proud heads
When your breath wandered past—
Perfumed like myths

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Too beautiful to last.

Tell me—
What alchemy lived in your veins?
What celestial ache
Flowed through your name?
For each syllable you uttered
Unfastened kingdoms in me,
And every touch became
A beautiful blasphemy.

I loved you not gently—
No river loves the shore gently.
I loved you
Like storms love abandoned towers,
Like thunder loves
The arrogance of flowers.

You entered my ribs
Like wildfire enters forests—
Golden, merciless, divine;
And suddenly every ruin within me
Began to shine.

Your laughter—
Ah! your laughter—
It was wine poured into wounds,
A violin drowning slowly
Inside monsoon moons.

What were we then?
Two exiled comets
Colliding beyond fate's decree?
Or merely two lonely mirrors
Terrified of what they see?

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Yet love—
Cruel, holy, ravenous love—
Made emperors of our scars;
It stitched our broken breaths
Into garments fit for stars.
And if one day
Death seals your lips
With its dark and patient art,
Still your name shall wander

Like incense through my heart.
For true love never dies—
It merely changes form:
From flesh into fragrance,
From memory into storm.
And somewhere beyond galaxies,
Where doomed angels cease to roam,

Your soul and mine
Will still be writing poems
Upon the bones of Rome.

An Ode, Thee 'O 'Cuckoo'

Sweet thy voice,
Arises, within nature
In me, a resonance, of essence
Note, thee wrote, very fare.

Alone, sings thee, hide.
Tide, feels, Bards
Merry-note must be,there,
Seems artful, thou art rare.

Boughs, twigs, flowers
Wrapped thee. how, shrilly!
Every creature, waits happily
When, in summer, art thee cares.for thy rapture.

Sound, thy shrill, maketh,
Me, I think, a thrill, vou I
Take, not to, be violent,
Course, I reveal, get here.

Uninterruptedly, numbers thee
Composes, easily, verry and surpasses,
Every creature's role, thou
Kept thee, hide, thyself there.

Where art, thou in full-bliss?
Many, arise queries, but miss,
Who, thou allow, may enjoy
Thy ecstasy, they art thy dear.

Summer, keeps us fore-lorn,
Doth thee, keep thy beloved, unknown!
So sweetly, rapture, thy kisses
Her, breast, missed but lips, so far.

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Kids, how many, thou hath thine?
Life, no satire, rear them up,
Who never, has her mind sharp
Both thee, loved-ones meet, but cheer.

Unlike, my mentor, 'Keats -John'
I have, my mind different in vision.
I would say, teach me, it really stirs.

No Nightingale, I though, I meet,
Crost, wide land, drag my feet
Ours, have, thy Only Voice-Unmatched
Erase languor, always, please he'ar

Make me artful, beseech thee.
Let me get admitted into thy school.

Where there is harmony, with no-bands
Make me thy child, let me be closer.

A Tie Knots Me with the Vie

A tie of fate around me clings so tight, (a)
And binds my soul unto the vie of pain; (b)
It veils the dawn and swallows every light, (a)
Like thirsty roots that drink the weeping rain. (b)

The winds recite old sorrows to the sea, (c)
While stars grow pale beneath the raven sky; (d)
This mortal thread has fastened fast to me, (c)
And taught my wounded dreams the art to die. (d)

Yet still I walk where shattered echoes sing, (e)
Through ruins carved by Time's relentless hand; (f)
Each grief becomes a dark remembering, (e)
Like castles drowning slowly into sand. (f)

O tie unseen! why chain my breath to lie? (g)
When all I sought was truth beyond the vie. (g)

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Dr.
Ezhil
Vendhan



The Year of the Poet XIII August 2026

Dr. Ezhil Vendhan is a celebrated poet from India, author of four poetry collectios and his poems are published in International anthologies and magazines. A recipient of numerous international accolades and some of them are:

1. 'World Laureate in Literature 2017' by the World Nations Writers' Union, Kazakhstan.
2. 'Hispanic-American Golden Pen World Award-2021', for Very Meritorious Career in Peace and Human Rights Activism conferred by World Association of Writers and Artists of the Orbe, Peru.
3. The 'Fellow of the Regal World of Scribes' and 'Enchanting Muse' have been conferred by the Writers Corner International and Pentasi B World Poetry Festival October 2017, India.

He can be contacted by email address:
dr.ezhilvendan@gmail.com.

No Tags For Me

No more tags for me
as I never like a tag
suffixed or prefixed to me.
My name is to identify
nevermore to beautify.

Born to Indian parents
it was not at my choice.
Will live here as long as
I have an unpaid universal visa.

I have no rigid religion
as I believe in spiritualism.
I don't belong to any particular race
I will always remain human.

Born white turned honey brown
toned black working in sunlight
no creed or no caste
nothing clutches my mind and heart.

Political maps have boundaries
often change as to their power.
Nature has land and ocean by its nature
I accept with salutation.

You only claim
discrimination erased all around
but keeping them in heart and mind.

Lip services are only going in grand
with hidden agenda
but worshiping in mind.

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This has hidden itself in between
our blood and heart tissues.

Millenniums rolled on
leaving the impurity
alarmingly increased the density.

All isms for only gratification
for its own interest and emancipation.
Nothing came glorified
dignity, equality or humanity.

My words travel around the universe
reach whoever loves me
and deliver my love and light.

The Beauty Of Silence

We are wandering souls of the universe
in the company of angels.
We cannot identify ourselves
in the noise pollution and restlessness,
as we are friends of peace and silence.
I feel we are like nature creepers, plants, trees,
grass, flowers, fruits and all grow in silence.
And see the stars,
the moon and the sun, how they move in silence.
We need silence to
touch our souls mutually.
Let us pass through
the silent valley
where we could enjoy
the melody of dew drops
falling on the grass blades.
We could hear
the budding of soft petals
of the fragrant flowers around.
We could glance the beauty of silence
when pollen grains emanate honey.
Let us enjoy the fauna and flora
of the wonderful nature in silence.

I Could Walk In Longways

I'm not a simple onlooker on many things
but involving from the depth of my soul
I sense your feelings and emotions in full
whole heartedly with love, nothing deters me.
I understand things from your point of view,
and couldn't distance myself from you anymore,
for I am born with commitment and compassion,
qualified and groomed, natural poet of the nature.
Skills aren't even emotional intelligence makes me,
to understand you better in your own perspective.
Nay words, yet your personality comprehend wholly
I could see myself mirrored in you really.
I identify the blind people and catch their hands
to cross the traffic roads, is just a do
little,
feel comfortable and moved by my warmth,
why not you as nearer and dearer to me.
Many people are like high sky passing clouds,
while passing away they smile momentarily,
and dissipating their feelings instantly
but I could walk longways in your shoes.

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Swayam
Prashant

The Year of the Poet XIII August 2026



The Year of the Poet XIII August 2026

Swayam Prashant (pen name of Dr. Prashanta Kumar Sahoo) was born in the undivided Cuttack district, Odisha, India. He was formerly an Associate Professor of English, Sarupathar College, Assam, India. He has written ten books including *Joy of Love* (poetry) *Heart of Love* (poetry)(published in USA in 2023) and *Premras Amrit* (2019) (poetry in Assamese). His poems have also been published in several international poetry journals like The Year of the Poet (USA), Open Skies Quarterly (USA), Raven Cage (Germany) and Impspired (UK) and anthologies like *Cherish*, *Psythur*, *Tempest*, and *Dream*.

O Poets! Revolutionise Both Heaven and Earth

Poetry is not poetry
if it only sings of dreams and joy;
poet is not a poet
if he /she forgets the society and humanity.
Down the ages
words and word-wielders have brought
succour to the oppressed, the exploited and the
downtrodden;
have infused into them
the fiery life-blood they needed.
So O poets !
let your mighty pens awake the sleeping souls
and make them realise what they really are.
May you sing the songs of change
that revolutionise both Heaven and Earth !
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If I am the Sun She is the Moon

When it descends...

lust sings

when it ascends...

love.

When she flowers my sweet feelings

I love her;

when her sensuous curves carve into my eyes

I crave for her.

I offer her my heart on a plate

but in my dreams I dig

my greedy teeth

deep into her lobes.

She is both heaven and earth !

O my love

how can I separate your heart

from your body ?

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Drowning, Drowning and Drowning Deep

I shall drink the ocean
I shall conquer the sky
says the soul on fire –
the fire of passion –
the passion of living a life that matters
but today's souls have sold themselves to their master (the
Meta ?).
Life is a fashion for them
with 'reels', 'selfies' and 'videos'.
Mephistopheles has bought them
paying them with 'pleasures'.
Gone are the days
when souls were valued for their morality and virtues
but today's souls value themselves to be in the fashion,
crave for public appreciation
and for the Dollar Mr Z pays
to be in the public glare
and even sometimes for glorifying nudity !
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Remembering

our fallen soldiers of verse



Janet Perkins Caldwell

February 14, 1959 ~ September 20, 2016

Alan W. Jankowski

16 March 1961 ~ 10 March 2017

Shareef Abdur Rasheed

30 May 1945 ~ 11 February 2025

The Butterfly Effect



"15" in effect

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by

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Jackie Davis Allen

Gail Weston Shazor

hülya n. yılmaz

Nizar Sartawi

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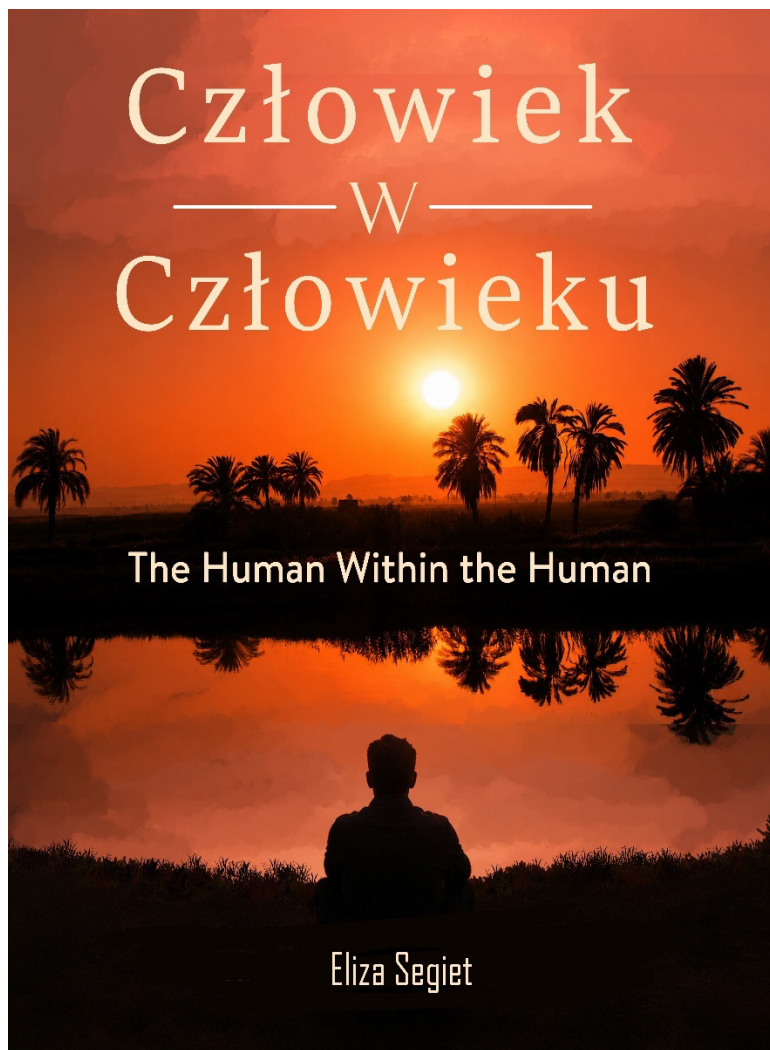
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I Am in Your Head



C. E. Shy

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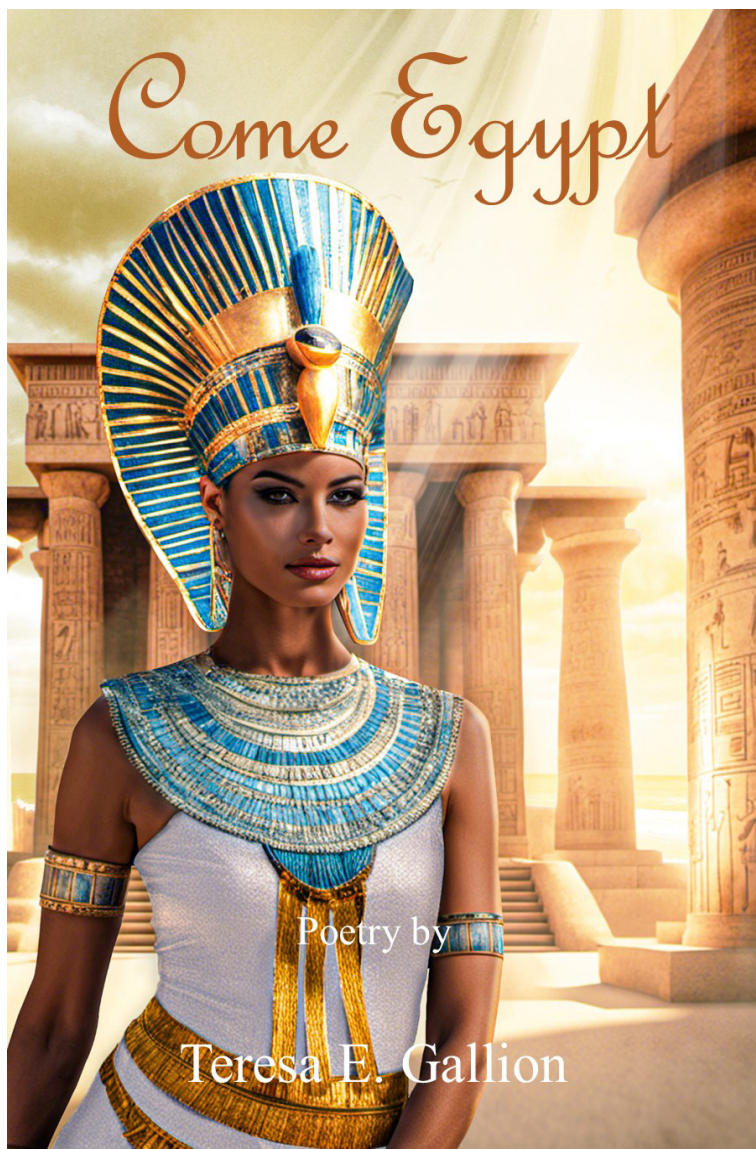
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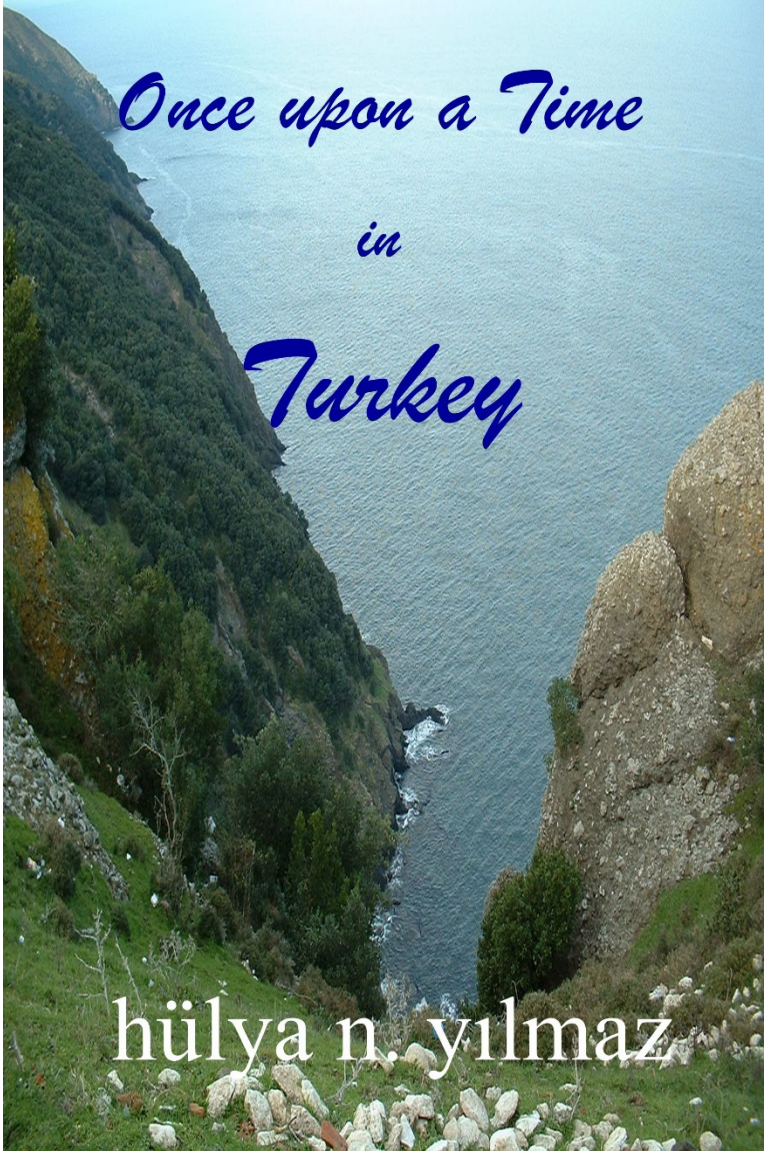
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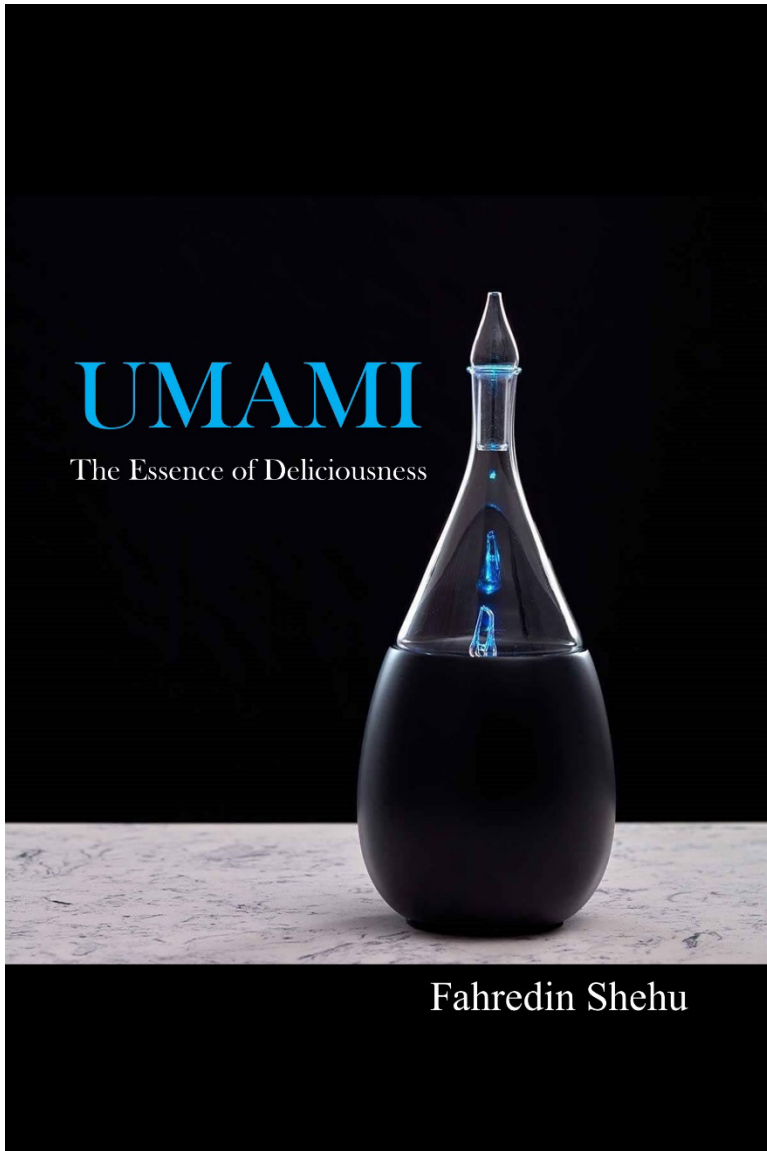
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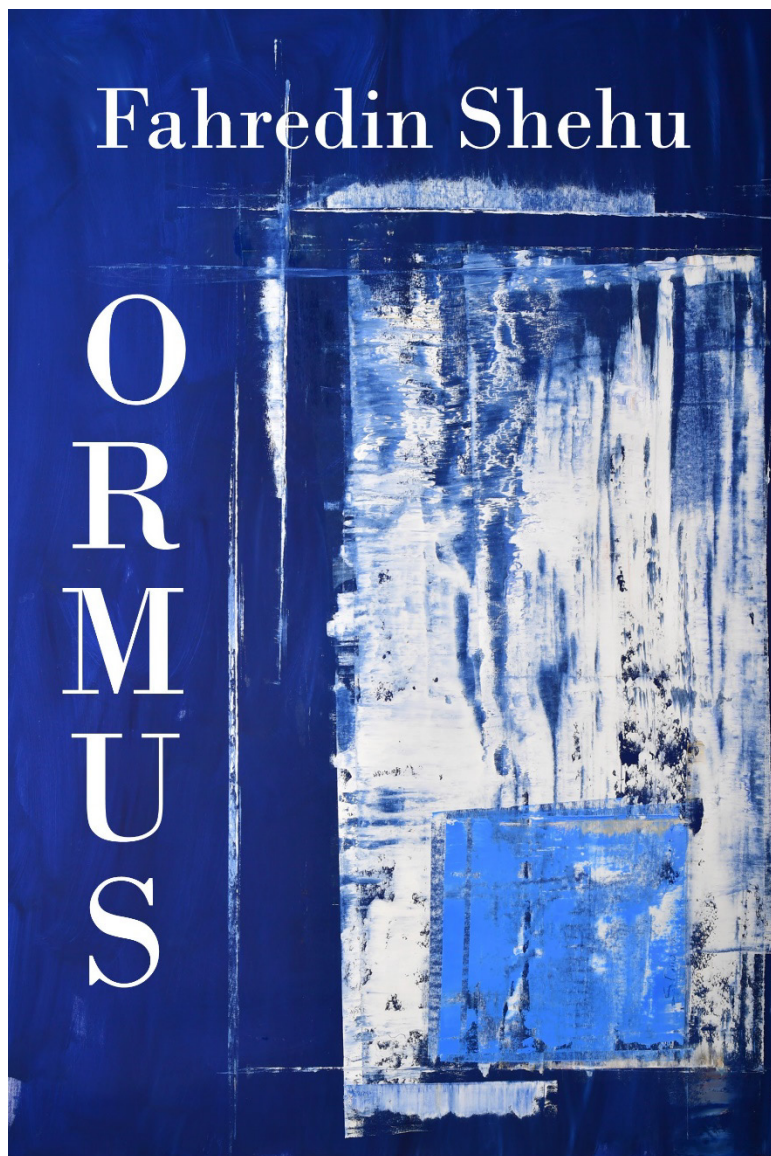
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Ahead of My Time

... from the Streets to the Stages



Albert *'Infinite'* Carrasco

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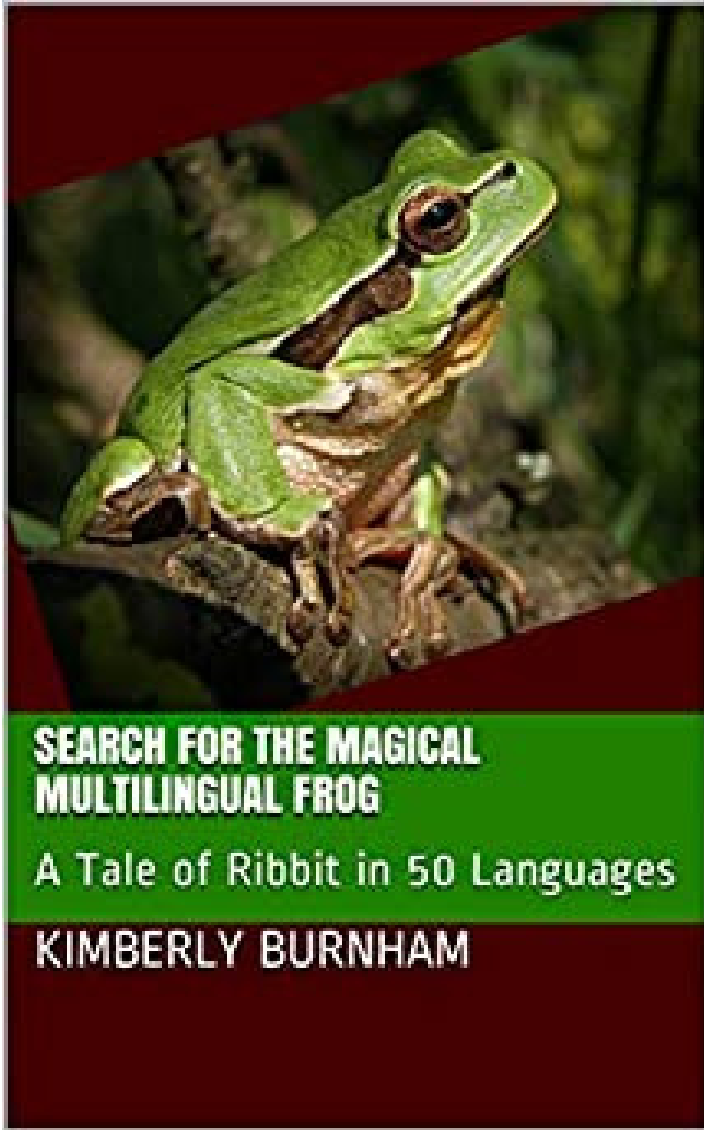
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Elíza Segiet



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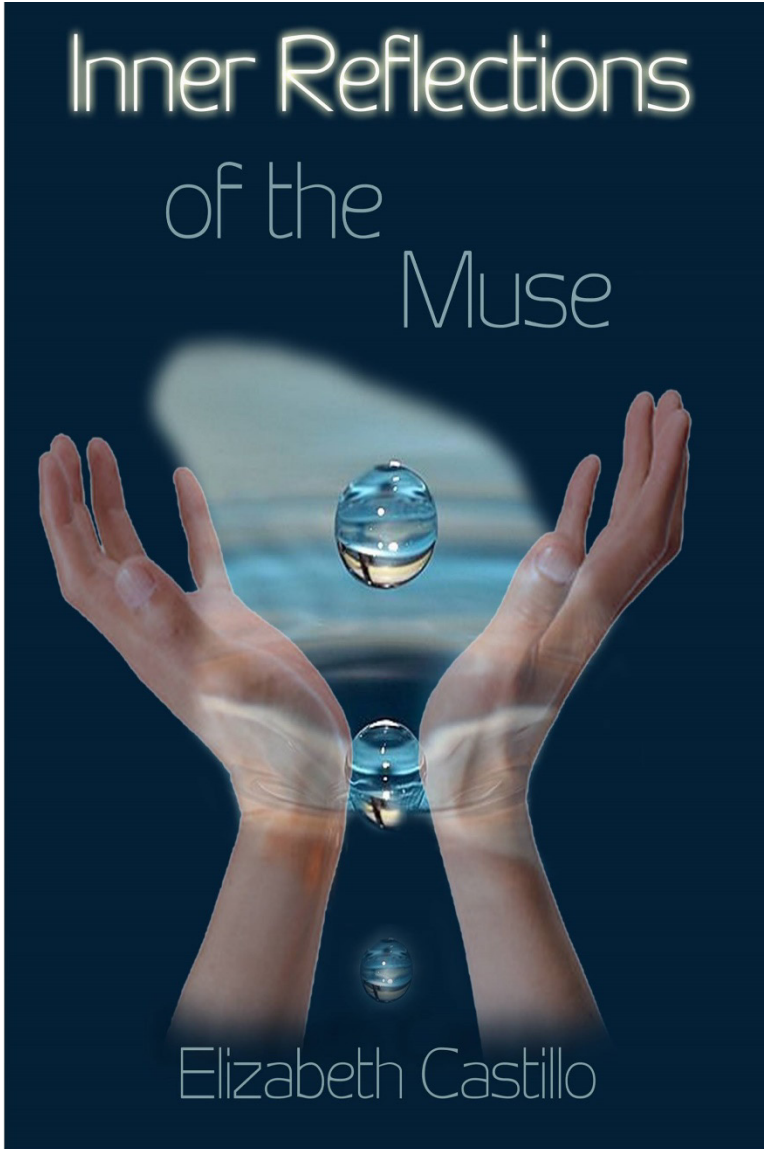
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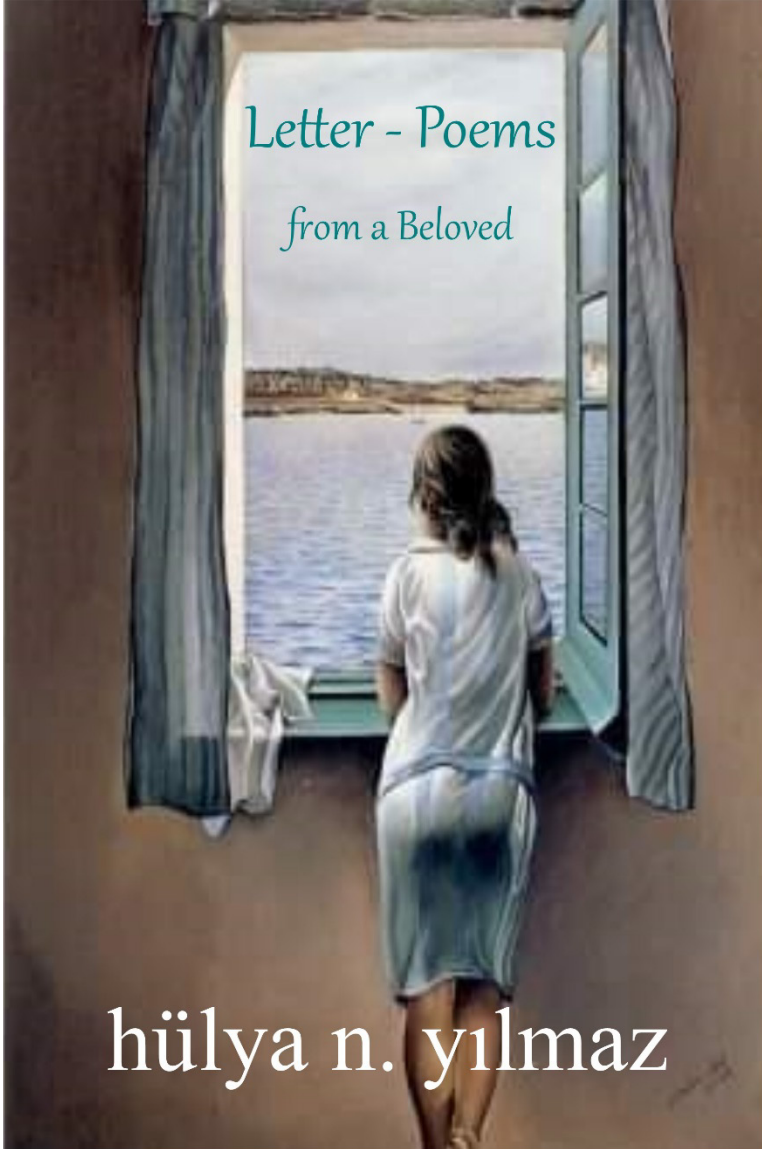
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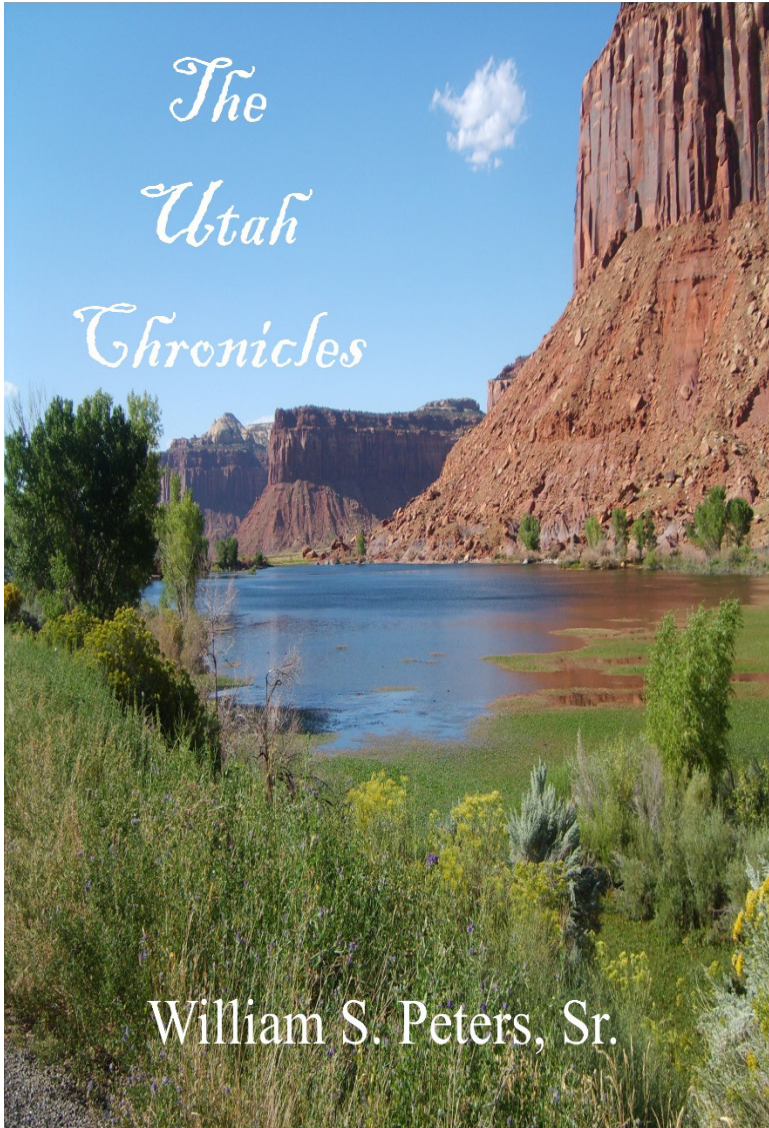
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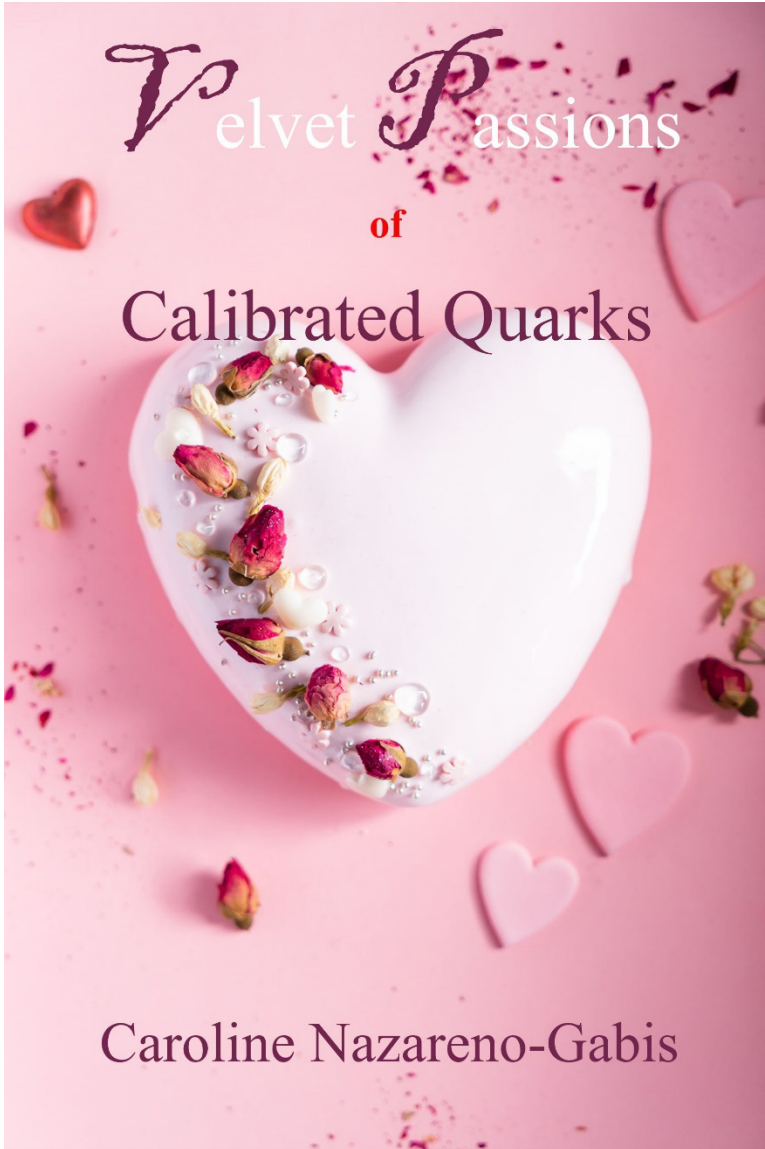


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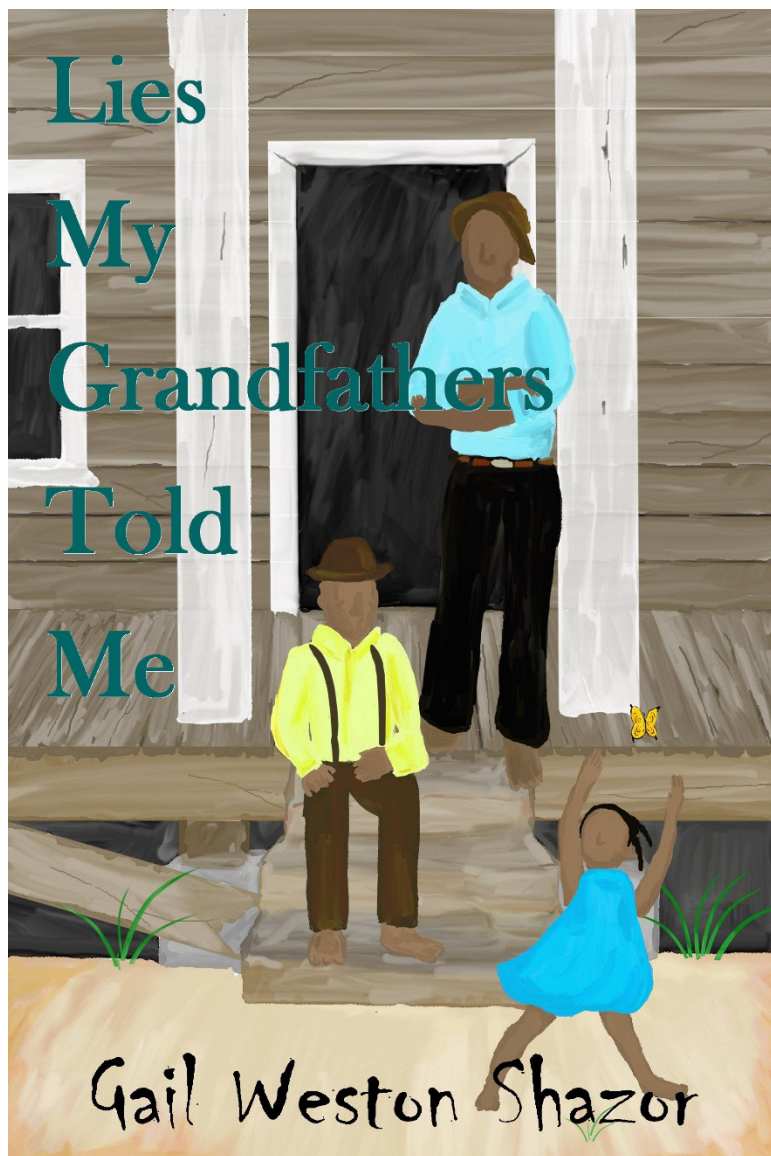
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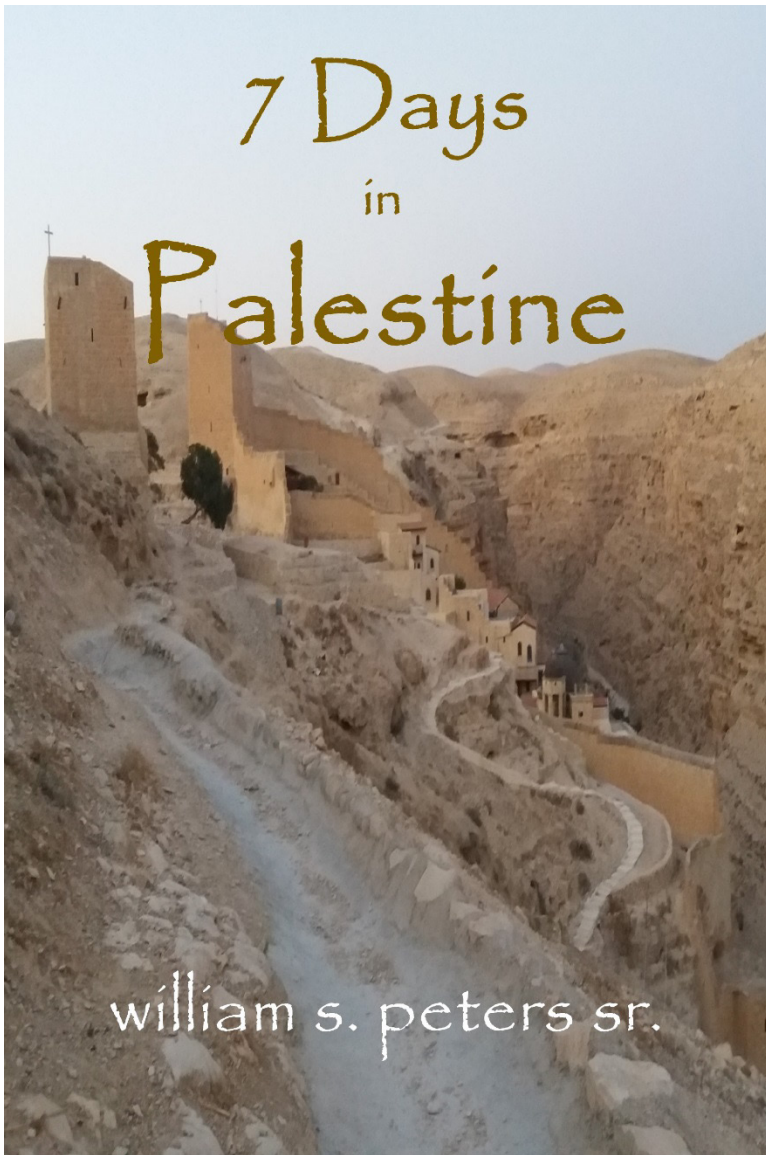
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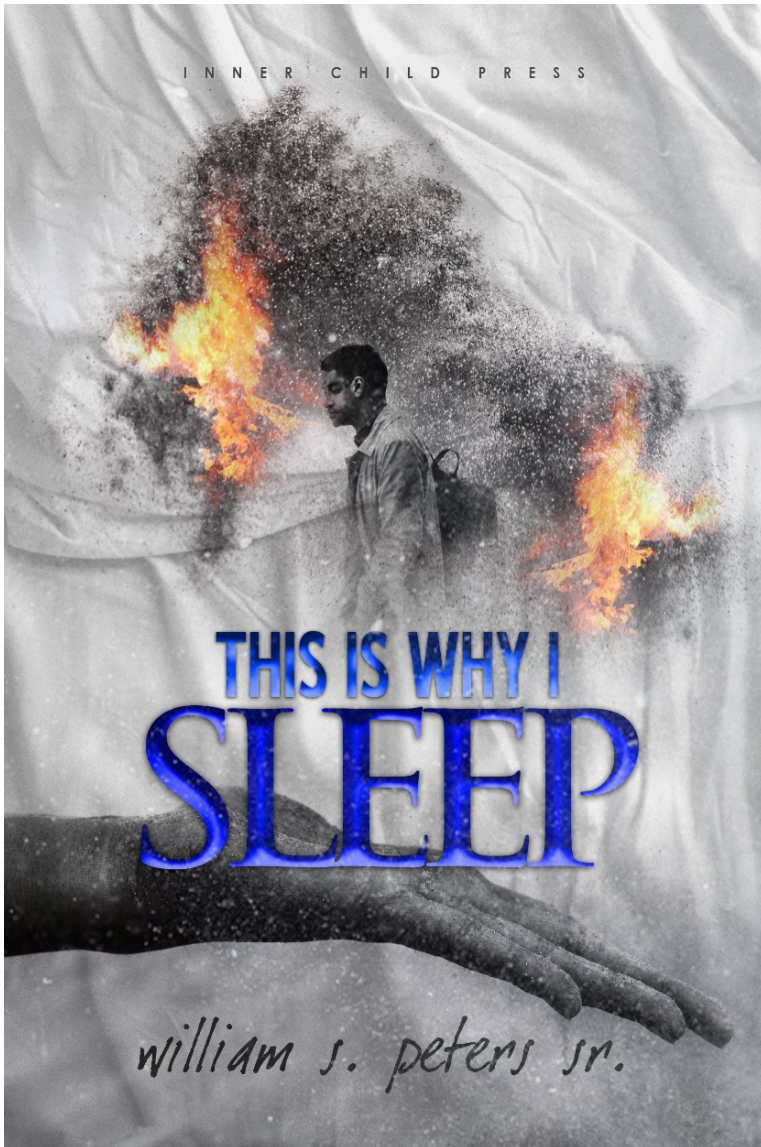
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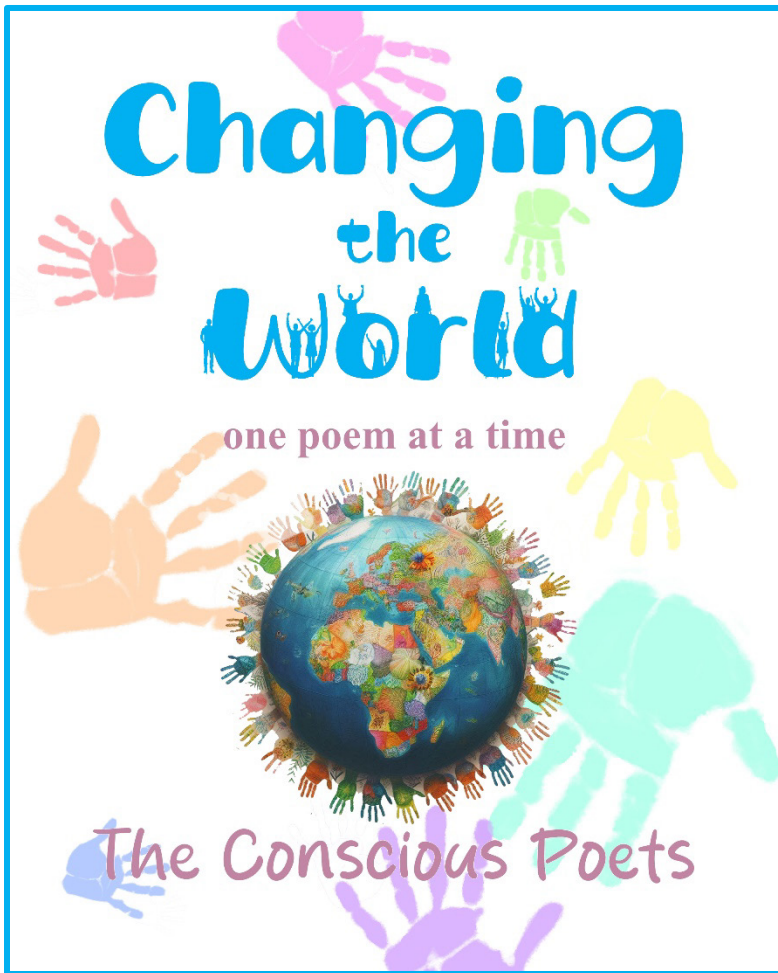
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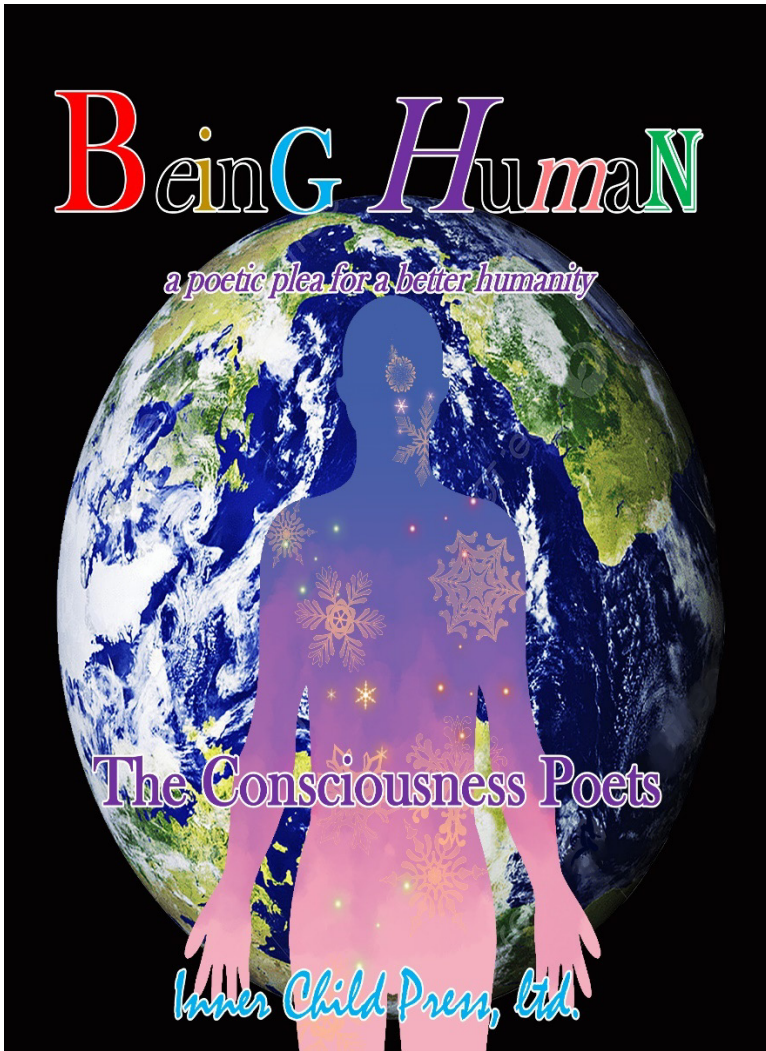
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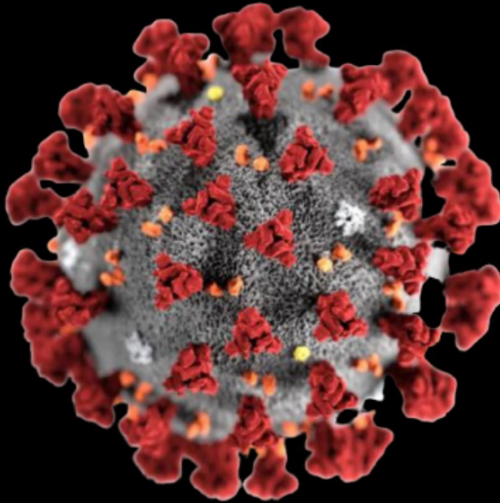
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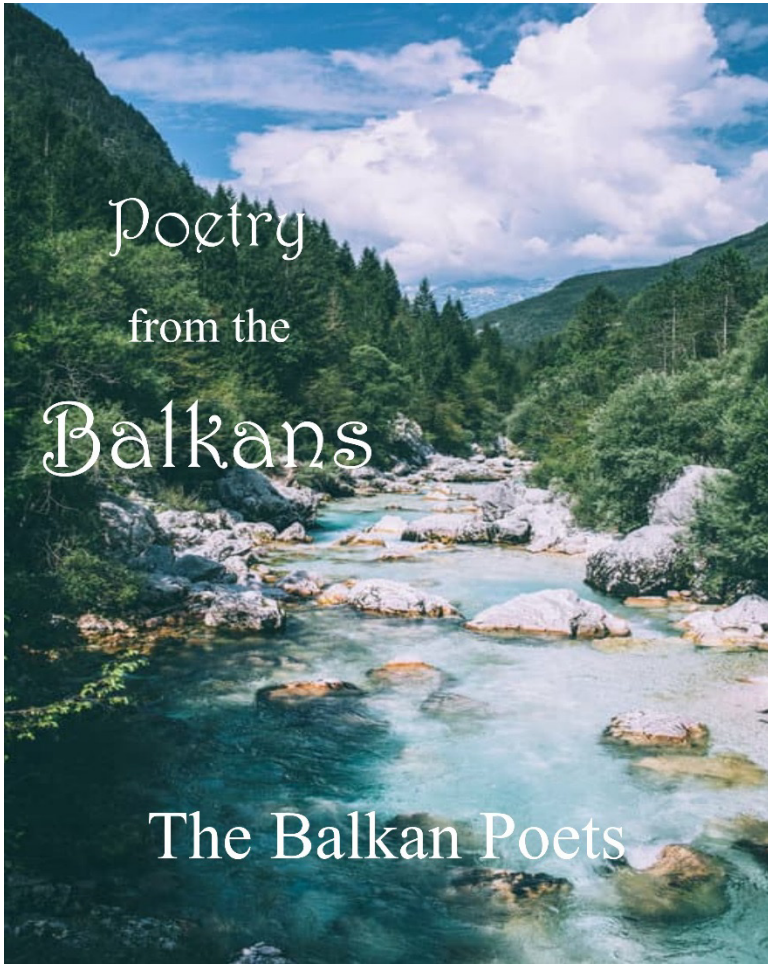


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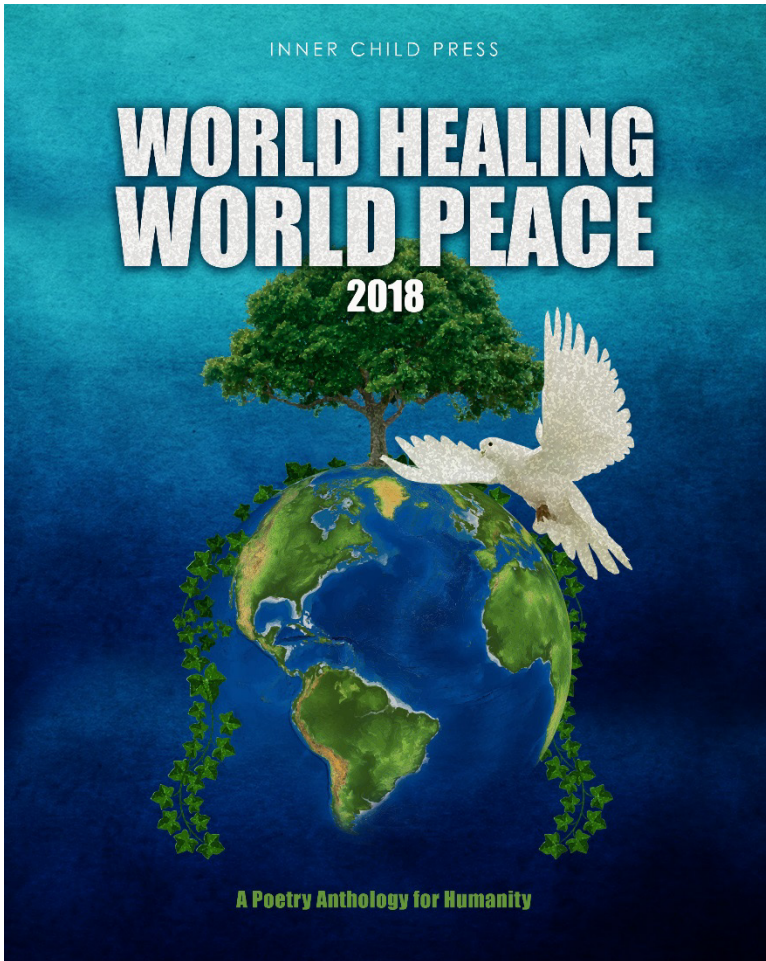
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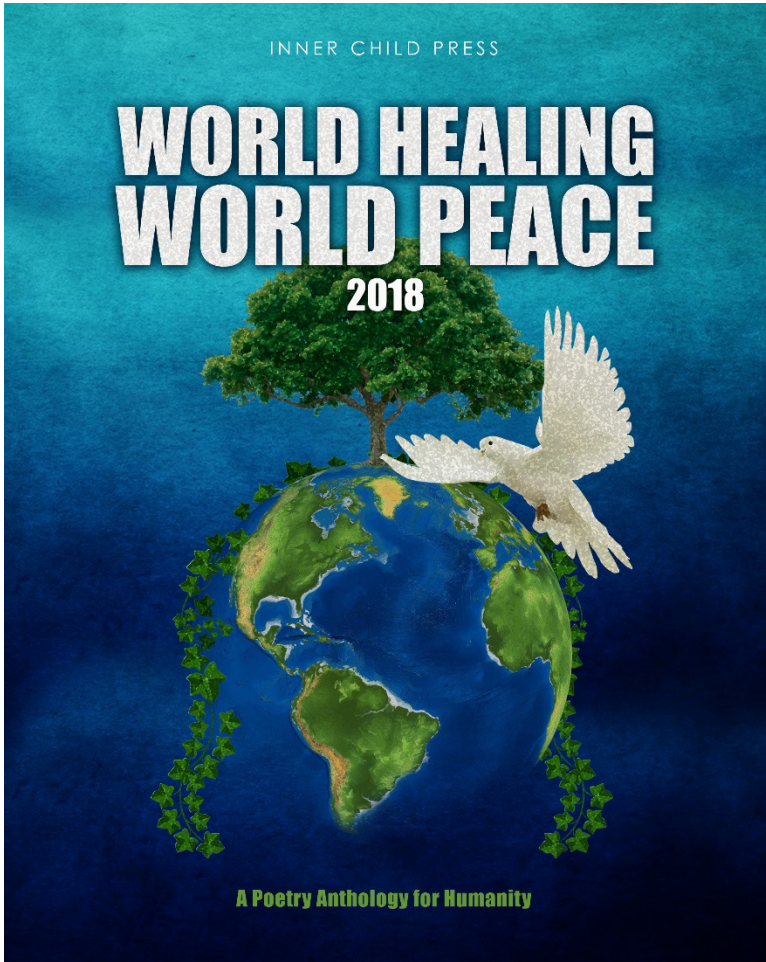


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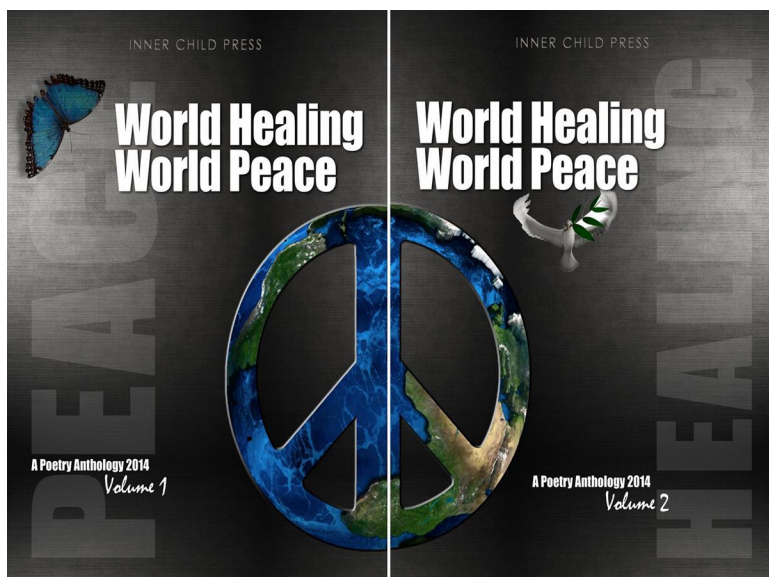
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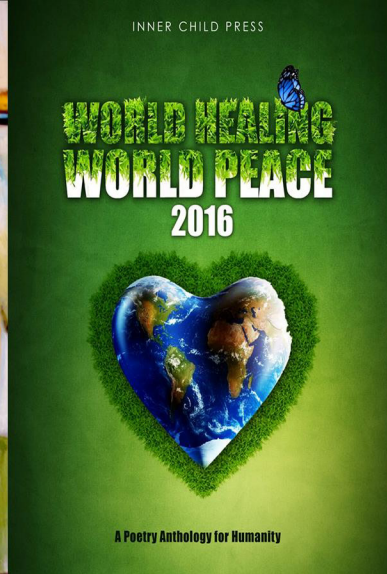
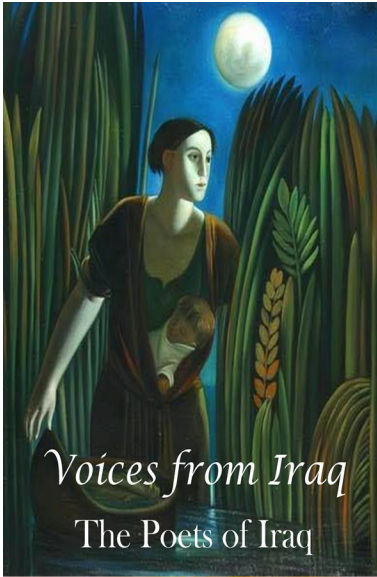
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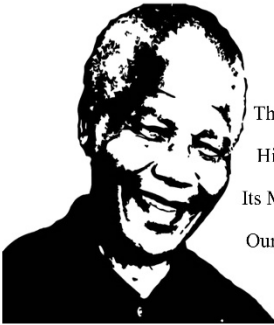
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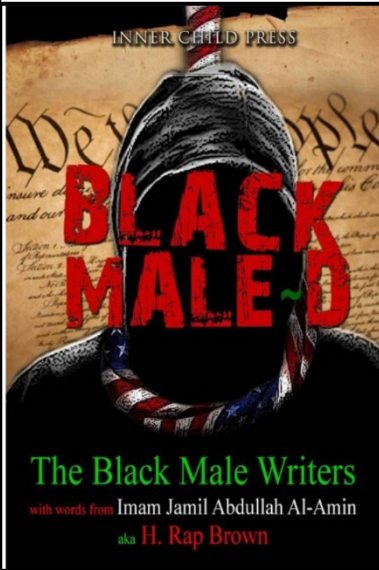
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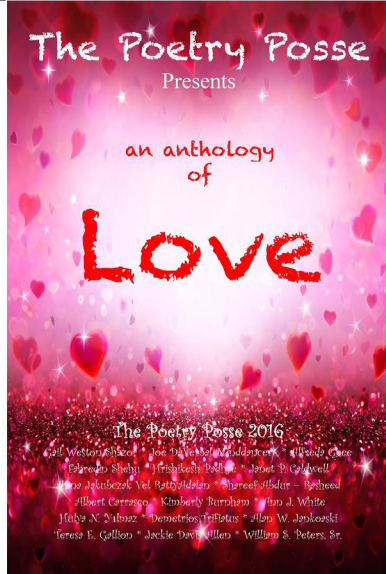
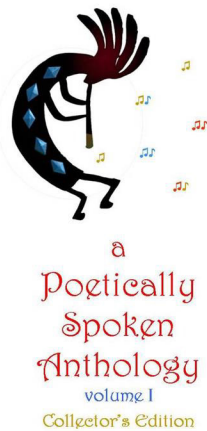
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January 2014



Carnation

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June 'Bugg' Barefield
Debbie M. Allen
Tony Henninger
Joe DaVerbal Minddancer
Robert Gibbons
Neetu Wali
Shareef Abdur-Rasheed
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Our January Feature
Terri L. Johnson

the Year of the Poet

February 2014



violets

The Poetry Posse

Jamie Bond
Gail Weston Shazor
Albert 'Infinite' Carrasco
Siddhartha Beth Pierce
Janet P. Caldwell
June 'Bugg' Barefield
Debbie M. Allen
Tony Henninger
Joe DaVerbal Minddancer
Robert Gibbons
Neetu Wali
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Our February Features
Teresa E. Gallion & Robert Gibson

the Year of the Poet

March 2014



daffodil

The Poetry Posse

Jamie Bond
Gail Weston Shazor
Albert 'Infinite' Carrasco
Siddhartha Beth Pierce
Janet P. Caldwell
June 'Bugg' Barefield
Debbie M. Allen
Tony Henninger
Joe DaVerbal Minddancer
Robert Gibbons
Neetu Wali
Shareef Abdur-Rasheed
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Our March Featured Poets
Alicia C. Cooper & Hilya Yilmaz

the Year of the Poet

April 2014



Sweet Pea

The Poetry Posse

Jamie Bond
Gail Weston Shazor
Albert 'Infinite' Carrasco
Siddhartha Beth Pierce
Janet P. Caldwell
June 'Bugg' Barefield
Debbie M. Allen
Tony Henninger
Joe DaVerbal Minddancer
Robert Gibbons
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Our April Featured Poets
Fahredin Shehu
Martina Reisz Newberry
Justin Blackburn
Monte Smith

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September 2014

Aster

Morning-Glory



Wild Churn of September-Birthday Flower

September Feature Poets

Florence Malone • Keith Alan Hamilton

The Poet's Poet

Janie Bond • Call Weston Shazor • Albert Infante Carrasco • Siddhartha Beth Pierce
Janet P. Caldwell • June Rugg Barefield • Debbie M. Allen • Tony Harringer
Joe DeVerbal Minddancer • Robert Gibbons • Neetu Wolf • Shereef Abdul-Rasheed
Kimberly Burnham • William S. Peters, Sr.

THE YEAR OF THE POET

October 2014

Red Poppy



The Poet's Poet

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Joe DeVerbal Minddancer • Robert Gibbons • Neetu Wolf • Shereef Abdul-Rasheed
Kimberly Burnham • William S. Peters, Sr.

October Feature Poets

Ceri Naz • RaSendra Padri • Elizabeth Castillo

THE YEAR OF THE POET

November 2014

Chrysanthemum



The Poet's Poet

Janie Bond • Call Weston Shazor • Albert Infante Carrasco • Siddhartha Beth Pierce
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Joe DeVerbal Minddancer • Robert Gibbons • Neetu Wolf • Shereef Abdul-Rasheed
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November Feature Poets

Jacelyn Moorman • Jackie Allen • James Moore • Neville Hiatt

THE YEAR OF THE POET

December 2014

Narcissus



The Poet's Poet

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Call Weston Shazor
Albert Infante Carrasco
Siddhartha Beth Pierce
Janet P. Caldwell
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Robert Gibbons
Neetu Wolf
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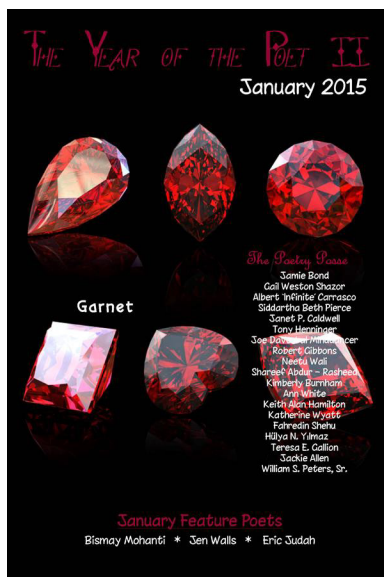
December Feature Poets

Katherine Wyatt • WrittenInPoet • Santos Jairo • Justine Clarke

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March 2015

Our Featured Poets

Heung Sook • Anthony Arnold • Alicia Poland



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Kimberly Burnham • Ann White • Keith Alan Hamilton
Katherine Wyatt • Fahredin Shehu • Hilbya N. Yilmaz
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April 2015

Celebrating International Poetry Month

Our Featured Poets

Raja Williams • Dennis Ferado • Laure Charazac



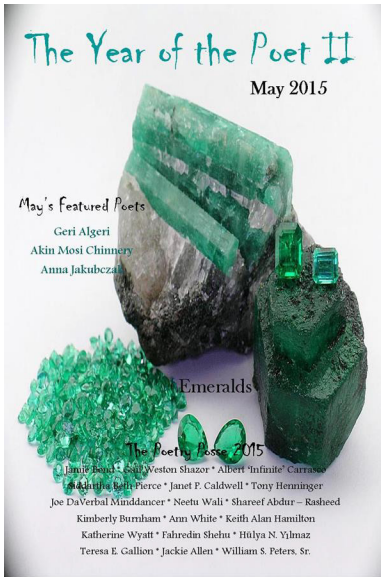
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June's Featured Poets

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July 2015

The Featured Poets for July 2015

Abhik Shome • Christina Neal • Robert Neal



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August 2015

Peridot

Featured Poets

Gayle Howell
Ann Chlasz
Christopher Schultz



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September 2015

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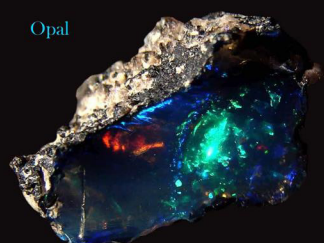


Sapphires

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The Year of the Poet II
October 2015

Featured Poets
Monte Smith • Laura J. Wolfe • William Washington



Opal

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November 2015

Featured Poets
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Bismay Mohanty
James Moore



Topaz

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December 2015

Featured Poets
Kerione Bryan • Michelle Joan Barulich • Neville Hiatt



Turquoise

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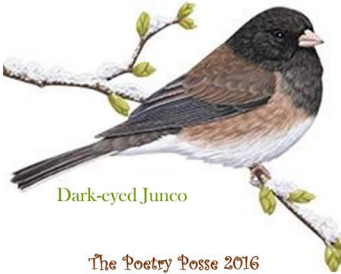
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Dark-eyed Junco

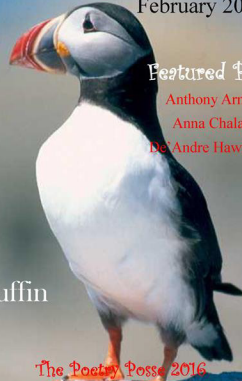
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Fahreddin Shehu * Hirshikesh Padhye * Janet P. Caldwell
Joe DeVetral Mindlaucier * Shereef Abdur - Rasheed
Albert Carrasco * Kimberly Burnham * Ann J. White
Huiya N. Yilmaz * Demetrios Trifitatos * Alan W. Jankowski
Teresa E. Gallion * Jackie Davis Allen * William S. Peters, Sr.

The Year of the Poet III February 2016

Featured Poets

Anthony Arnold
Anna Chalas
DeAndre Hawthorne



Puffin

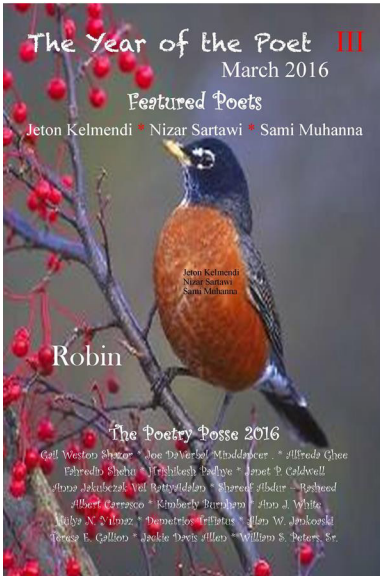
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Fahreddin Shehu * Hirshikesh Padhye * Janet P. Caldwell
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Albert Carrasco * Kimberly Burnham * Jione J. White
Huiya N. Yilmaz * Demetrios Trifitatos * Alan W. Jankowski
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The Year of the Poet III March 2016

Featured Poets

Jeton Kelmendi * Nizar Sartawi * Sami Muhanna



Robin

The Poetry Posse 2016

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Fahreddin Shehu * Hirshikesh Padhye * Janet P. Caldwell
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Featured Poets

Ali Abdolrezaei

Anna Chalas

Agim Vinca

Ceri Naz

Black Capped Chickadee

The Poetry Posse 2016

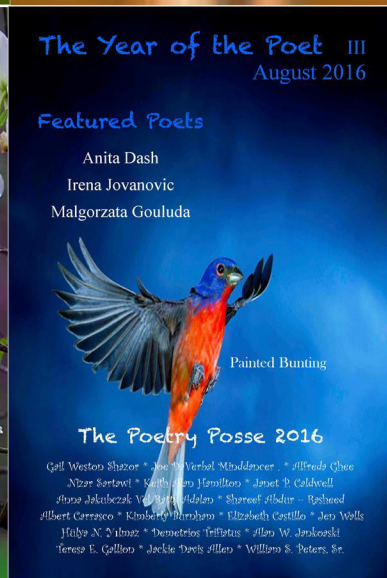
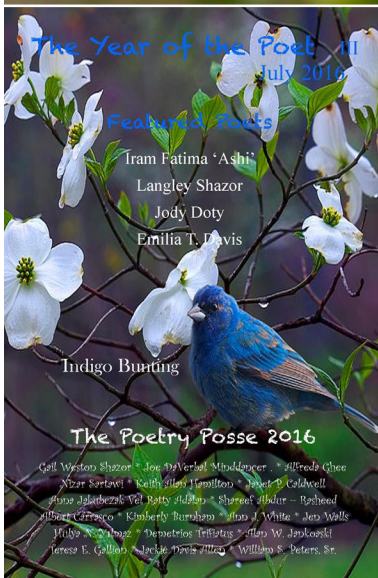
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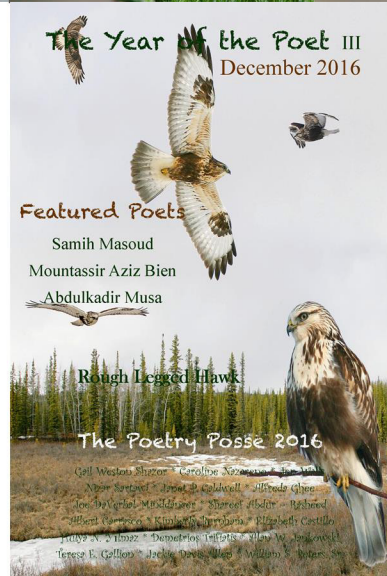
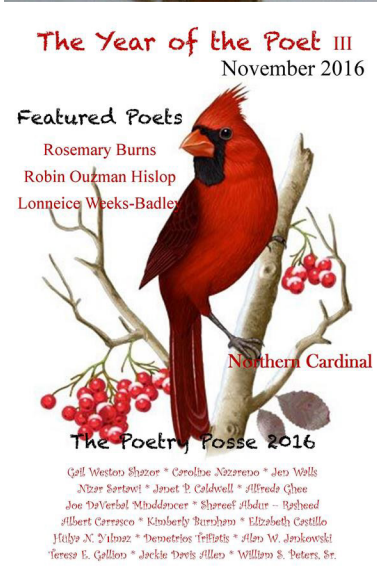
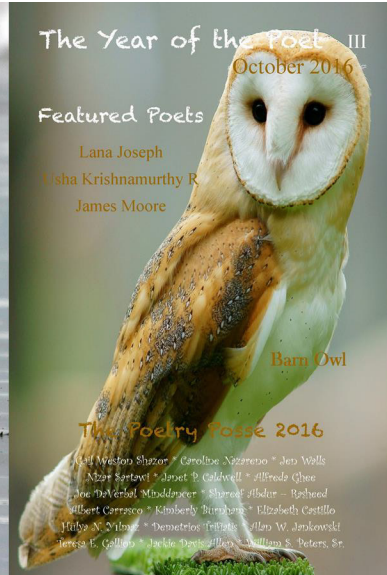
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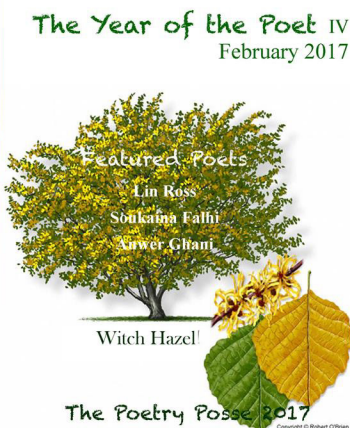
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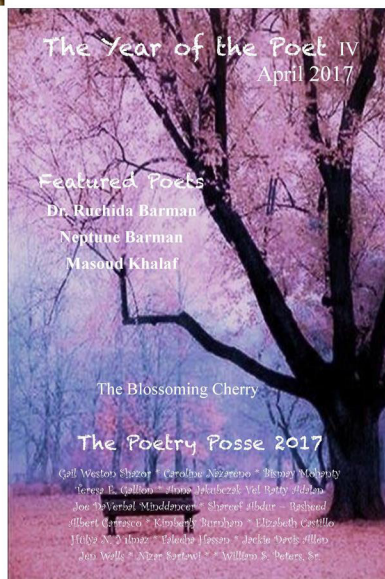
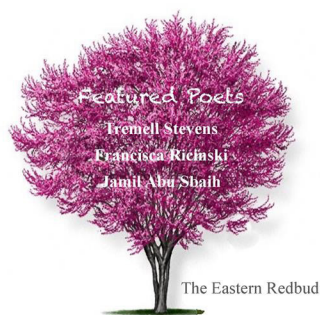
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The Year of the Poet IV March 2017



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The Year of the Poet IV May 2017

The Flowering Dogwood Tree



Featured Poets

Kallisa Powell
Alicja Maria Kuberska
Fethi Sassi

The Poetry Posse 2017

Gail Weston Shazor * Caroline Nazareno * Bismay Mohanty
Teresa E. Gallion * Anna Jakubczak Vel Betty Siddons
Joe DeVerlul Mitodancer * Shorneef Siddur - Rahmad
Albert Carrasco * Kimberly Burroughs * Elizabeth Castillo
Hilija N. Yilmaz * Fathma Hassan * Jackie Davis Allen
Jen Walls * Nizar Sertawi * * William S. Peters, Sr.

The Year of the Poet IV June 2017

Featured Poets

Eliza Segiet
Tze-Min Tsai
Abdulla Issa

The Linden Tree

The Poetry Posse 2017

Gail Weston Shazor * Caroline Nazareno * Bismay Mohanty
Teresa E. Gallion * Anna Jakubczak Vel Betty Siddons
Joe DeVerlul Mitodancer * Shorneef Siddur - Rahmad
Albert Carrasco * Kimberly Burroughs * Elizabeth Castillo
Hilija N. Yilmaz * Fathma Hassan * Jackie Davis Allen
Jen Walls * Nizar Sertawi * * William S. Peters, Sr.

The Year of the Poet IV July 2017

Featured Poets

Anca Mihaela Bruma
Ibaa Ismail
Zvonko Taneski

The Oak Moon

The Poetry Posse 2017

Gail Weston Shazor * Caroline Nazareno * Bismay Mohanty
Teresa E. Gallion * Anna Jakubczak Vel Betty Siddons
Joe DeVerlul Mitodancer * Shorneef Siddur - Rahmad
Albert Carrasco * Kimberly Burroughs * Elizabeth Castillo
Hilija N. Yilmaz * Fathma Hassan * Jackie Davis Allen
Jen Walls * Nizar Sertawi * * William S. Peters, Sr.

The Year of the Poet IV August 2017

Featured Poets

Jonathan Aquino
Kitty Hsu
Langley Shazor

The Hazelnut Tree

The Poetry Posse 2017

Gail Weston Shazor * Caroline Nazareno * Bismay Mohanty
Teresa E. Gallion * Anna Jakubczak Vel Betty Siddons
Joe DeVerlul Mitodancer * Shorneef Siddur - Rahmad
Albert Carrasco * Kimberly Burroughs * Elizabeth Castillo
Hilija N. Yilmaz * Fathma Hassan * Jackie Davis Allen
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The Year of the Poet IV

September 2017

Featured Poets

Martina Reisz Newberry

Ameer Nassir

Christine Fulco Neal

Robert Neal



The Elm Tree

The Poetry Posse 2017

Gail Weston Shazor * Caroline Nazareno * Bismay Mohanty
Teresa E. Gallion * Anna Jakubczak Vel Ratty Adalan
Joe DaVerbal Minddancer * Shareef Abdur – Rasheed
Albert Carrasco * Kimberly Burnham * Elizabeth Castillo
Hülya N. Yilmaz * Faleeha Hassan * Jackie Davis Allen
Jen Walls * Nizar Sartawi * William S. Peters, Sr.

The Year of the Poet IV

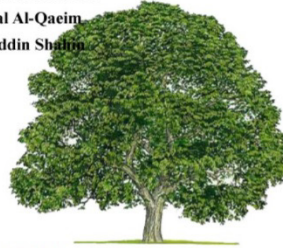
October 2017

Featured Poets

Ahmed Abu Saleem

Nedal Al-Qaeim

Sadeddin Shahrin



The Black Walnut Tree

The Poetry Posse 2017

Gail Weston Shazor * Caroline Nazareno * Bismay Mohanty
Teresa E. Gallion * Anna Jakubczak Vel Ratty Adalan
Joe DaVerbal Minddancer * Shareef Abdur – Rasheed
Albert Carrasco * Kimberly Burnham * Elizabeth Castillo
Hülya N. Yilmaz * Faleeha Hassan * Jackie Davis Allen
Jen Walls * Nizar Sartawi * William S. Peters, Sr.

The Year of the Poet IV

November 2017

Featured Poets

Kay Peters

Alfreda D. Ghee

Gabriella Garofalo

Rosemary Cappello



The Tree of Life

The Poetry Posse 2017

Gail Weston Shazor * Caroline Nazareno * Bismay Mohanty
Teresa E. Gallion * Anna Jakubczak Vel Ratty Adalan
Joe DaVerbal Minddancer * Shareef Abdur – Rasheed
Albert Carrasco * Kimberly Burnham * Elizabeth Castillo
Hülya N. Yilmaz * Faleeha Hassan * Jackie Davis Allen
Jen Walls * Nizar Sartawi * William S. Peters, Sr.

The Year of the Poet IV

December 2017

Featured Poets

Justice Clarke

Mariel M. Pabroa

Kiley Brown



The Fig Tree

The Poetry Posse 2017

Gail Weston Shazor * Caroline Nazareno * Bismay Mohanty
Teresa E. Gallion * Anna Jakubczak Vel Ratty Adalan
Joe DaVerbal Minddancer * Shareef Abdur – Rasheed
Albert Carrasco * Kimberly Burnham * Elizabeth Castillo
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The Year of the Poet V

January 2018

Featured Poets

Iyad Shamasnah

Yasmeen Hamzeh

Ali Abdolrezaei

Aksum



The Poetry Posse 2018

Gail Weston Shazor * Caroline Nazareno * Tezmin Ition Tsai
Hülya N. Yilmaz * Faleeha Hassan * Jackie Davis Allen
Teresa E. Gallion * Anna Jakubczak Vel Ratty Adalan
Alicja Maria Kuberska * Shareef Abdur - Rasheed
Kimberly Burnham * Elizabeth Castillo
Nizar Sirtawi * William S. Peters, Sr.

The Year of the Poet V

February 2018

Sabeen



Featured Poets

Muhammad Azram

Anna Szawracka

Abhilipsa Kuanar

Aanika Aery

The Poetry Posse 2018

Gail Weston Shazor * Caroline Nazareno * Tezmin Ition Tsai
Hülya N. Yilmaz * Faleeha Hassan * Jackie Davis Allen
Teresa E. Gallion * Anna Jakubczak Vel Ratty Adalan
Alicja Maria Kuberska * Shareef Abdur - Rasheed
Kimberly Burnham * Elizabeth Castillo
Nizar Sirtawi * William S. Peters, Sr.

The Year of the Poet V

March 2018

Featured Poets

Iram Fatima 'Ashi'

Cassandra Swan

Jaleel Khazaal

Shazia Zaman



The Poetry Posse 2018

Gail Weston Shazor * Nizar Sirtawi * Hülya N. Yilmaz
Jackie Davis Allen * Caroline 'Ceri' Nazareno
Alicja Maria Kuberska * Teresa E. Gallion
Faleeha Hassan * Shareef Abdur - Rasheed
Kimberly Burnham * Elizabeth Castillo
Tezmin Ition Tsai * William S. Peters, Sr.

The Year of the Poet V

April 2018

Featured Poets

Sabah Abu-Lawi

Suzanne Bohara

Shirley Goss

Suzanne Riegler



The Nez Perce

The Poetry Posse 2018

Gail Weston Shazor * Nizar Sirtawi * Hülya N. Yilmaz
Jackie Davis Allen * Caroline 'Ceri' Nazareno
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The Year of the Poet V
May 2018

Featured Poets
Zahdy Carreon de Leon Jr.
Sylvia K. Malinowska
Lindita Ahmeti
Ofelia Prodan

The Sumerians



The Poetry Posse 2018
Gail Weston Shazor * Nizar Sattawi * Hülya N. Yilmaz
Jackie Davis Allen * Caroline 'Ceri' Nazareno
Alicja Maria Kuberska * Teresa E. Gallion
Kimberly Burnham * Shareef Abdur - Rasheed
Faleeha Hassan * Elizabeth Castillo * Swapna Behera
Tezmin Ition Tsai * William S. Peters, Sr.

The Year of the Poet V
June 2018

Featured Poets
Bilal Maliki * Daim Miflari * Gojko Božović * Sofija Živković

The Paleo Indians



The Poetry Posse 2018
Gail Weston Shazor * Nizar Sattawi * Hülya N. Yilmaz
Jackie Davis Allen * Caroline 'Ceri' Nazareno
Alicja Maria Kuberska * Teresa E. Gallion
Kimberly Burnham * Shareef Abdur - Rasheed
Faleeha Hassan * Elizabeth Castillo * Swapna Behera
Tezmin Ition Tsai * William S. Peters, Sr.

The Year of the Poet V
July 2018

Featured Poets
Padmaja Iyengar-Paddy
Mohammad Akbal Harsh
Eliza Segiet
Tom Higgins

Oceania



The Poetry Posse 2018
Gail Weston Shazor * Nizar Sattawi * Hülya N. Yilmaz
Jackie Davis Allen * Caroline 'Ceri' Nazareno
Alicja Maria Kuberska * Teresa E. Gallion
Kimberly Burnham * Shareef Abdur - Rasheed
Faleeha Hassan * Elizabeth Castillo * Swapna Behera
Tezmin Ition Tsai * William S. Peters, Sr.

The Year of the Poet V
August 2018

Featured Poets
Hussein Habasch * Mircea Dan Duta * Naida Mujkić * Swagat Das

The Lapita



The Poetry Posse 2018
Gail Weston Shazor * Nizar Sattawi * Hülya N. Yilmaz
Jackie Davis Allen * Caroline 'Ceri' Nazareno
Alicja Maria Kuberska * Teresa E. Gallion
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The Year of the Poet V

September 2018

The Aztecs & Incas



Featured Poets

Kolade Olanrewaju Freedom
Eliza Segiet
Mazher Hussain Abdul Ghani
Lily Swann

The Poetry Posse 2018

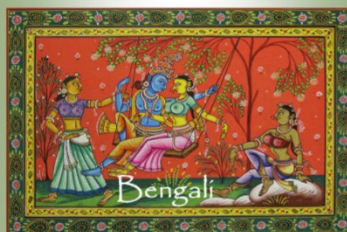
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Jackie Davis Allen * Caroline 'Ceri' Nazareno
Alicja Maria Kuberska * Teresa E. Gallion
Kimberly Burnham * Shareef Abdur - Rasheed
Ashok K. Bhargava * Elizabeth Castillo * Swapna Behara
Tezmin Htion Tsai * William S. Peters, Sr.

The Year of the Poet V

October 2018

Featured Poets

Alicia Minjarez * Lonnie Weeks-Badley
Lopamudra Mishra * Abdelwahed Souayah



The Poetry Posse 2018

Gail Weston Shazor * Nizar Sattawi * Hülya N. Yilmaz
Jackie Davis Allen * Caroline 'Ceri' Nazareno
Alicja Maria Kuberska * Teresa E. Gallion
Kimberly Burnham * Shareef Abdur - Rasheed
Ashok K. Bhargava * Elizabeth Castillo * Swapna Behara
Tezmin Htion Tsai * William S. Peters, Sr.

The Year of the Poet V

November 2018

Featured Poets

Michelle Joan Barulich * Monsif Beroual
Krystyna Konecka * Nassira Nezzar



The Poetry Posse 2018

Gail Weston Shazor * Nizar Sattawi * Hülya N. Yilmaz
Jackie Davis Allen * Caroline 'Ceri' Nazareno
Alicja Maria Kuberska * Teresa E. Gallion
Kimberly Burnham * Shareef Abdur - Rasheed
Ashok K. Bhargava * Elizabeth Castillo * Swapna Behara
Tezmin Htion Tsai * William S. Peters, Sr.

The Year of the Poet V

December 2018

Featured Poets

Rose Terranova Cirigliano
Joanna Kalinowska
Sokolović Emili
Dr. T. Ashok Chakravarti



The Poetry Posse 2018

Gail Weston Shazor * Nizar Sattawi * Hülya N. Yilmaz
Jackie Davis Allen * Caroline 'Ceri' Nazareno
Alicja Maria Kuberska * Teresa E. Gallion
Kimberly Burnham * Shareef Abdur - Rasheed
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The Year of the Poet VI

January 2019

Indigenous North Americans



Dream Catcher

Featured Poets

Honda Elfhtali
Anthony Briscoe
Iram Fatima 'Ashi'
Dr. K. K. Mathew

The Poetry Posse 2019

Gail Weston Shazor * Joe Paire * Hülya N. Yilmaz
Jackie Davis Allen * Caroline 'Ceri' Nazareno
Alicja Maria Kuberska * Teresa E. Gallion
Kimberly Burnham * Shareef Abdur - Rasheed
Ashok K. Bhargava * Elizabeth Castillo * Swapna Behera
Tezmin Ition Tsai * William S. Peters, Sr.

The Year of the Poet VI

February 2019

Featured Poets

Marek Lukaszewicz * Bharati Nayak
Aida G. Roque * Jean-Jacques Fournier



Meso-America

The Poetry Posse 2019

Gail Weston Shazor * Albert Carrasco * Hülya N. Yilmaz
Jackie Davis Allen * Caroline Nazareno * Eliza Segiet
Alicja Maria Kuberska * Teresa E. Gallion * Joe Paire
Kimberly Burnham * Shareef Abdur - Rasheed
Ashok K. Bhargava * Elizabeth Castillo * Swapna Behera
Tezmin Ition Tsai * William S. Peters, Sr.

The Year of the Poet VI

March 2019

Featured Poets

Enesa Mahmić * Sylwia K. Malinowska
Shurouk Hammoud * Anwer Ghani



The Caribbean

The Poetry Posse 2019

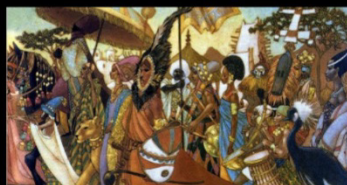
Gail Weston Shazor * Albert Carrasco * Hülya N. Yilmaz
Jackie Davis Allen * Caroline Nazareno * Eliza Segiet
Alicja Maria Kuberska * Teresa E. Gallion * Joe Paire
Kimberly Burnham * Shareef Abdur - Rasheed
Ashok K. Bhargava * Elizabeth Castillo * Swapna Behera
Tezmin Ition Tsai * William S. Peters, Sr.

The Year of the Poet VI

April 2019

Featured Poets

DL Davis * Michelle Joan Barulich
Lulëzim Haziri * Falecha Hassan



Central & West Africa

The Poetry Posse 2019

Gail Weston Shazor * Albert Carrasco * Hülya N. Yilmaz
Jackie Davis Allen * Caroline Nazareno * Eliza Segiet
Alicja Maria Kuberska * Teresa E. Gallion * Joe Paire
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The Year of the Poet VI
May 2019

Featured Poets
Emad Al-Haydari * Hussein Nasser Jabr
Wahab Sherif * Abdul Razzaq Al Ameer



Asia Southeast Asia and Maritime Asia

The Poetry Posse 2019
Gail Weston Shazor * Albert Carrasco * Hülya N. Yilmaz
Jackie Davis Allen * Caroline Nazareno * Eliza Segiet
Alicja Maria Kuberska * Teresa E. Gallion * Joe Paire
Kimberly Burnham * Shareef Abdur - Rasheed
Ashok K. Bhargava * Elizabeth Castillo * Swapna Behera
Tezmin Ition Tsai * William S. Peters, Sr.

The Year of the Poet VI
June 2019

Featured Poets
Kate Gaudi Powiekzone * Sahaj Sabharwal
Iwu Jeff * Mohamed Abdel Aziz Shmeis



Arctic Circumpolar

The Poetry Posse 2019
Gail Weston Shazor * Albert Carrasco * Hülya N. Yilmaz
Jackie Davis Allen * Caroline Nazareno * Eliza Segiet
Alicja Maria Kuberska * Teresa E. Gallion * Joe Paire
Kimberly Burnham * Shareef Abdur - Rasheed
Ashok K. Bhargava * Elizabeth Castillo * Swapna Behera
Tezmin Ition Tsai * William S. Peters, Sr.

The Year of the Poet VI
July 2019

Featured Poets
Saadeddin Shahin * Andy Scott
Fahredin Shehu * Alok Kumar Ray

The Horn of Africa



Ethiopia



Djibouti



Somalia



Eritrea

The Poetry Posse 2019
Gail Weston Shazor * Albert Carrasco * Hülya N. Yilmaz
Jackie Davis Allen * Caroline Nazareno * Eliza Segiet
Alicja Maria Kuberska * Teresa E. Gallion * Joe Paire
Kimberly Burnham * Shareef Abdur - Rasheed
Ashok K. Bhargava * Elizabeth Castillo * Swapna Behera
Tezmin Ition Tsai * William S. Peters, Sr.

The Year of the Poet VI
August 2019

Featured Poets
Shola Balogun * Bharati Nayak
Monalisa Dash Dwibedy * Mbizo Chirasha



Southwest Asia

The Poetry Posse 2019
Gail Weston Shazor * Albert Carrasco * Hülya N. Yilmaz
Jackie Davis Allen * Caroline Nazareno * Eliza Segiet
Alicja Maria Kuberska * Teresa E. Gallion * Joe Paire
Kimberly Burnham * Shareef Abdur - Rasheed
Ashok K. Bhargava * Elizabeth Castillo * Swapna Behera
Tezmin Ition Tsai * William S. Peters, Sr.

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The Year of the Poet VI
September 2019

Featured Poets
Elena Liliana Popescu * Gobinda Biswas
Iram Fatima 'Ashi' * Joseph S. Spence, Sr.



The Caucasus
The Poetry Posse 2019
Gail Weston Shazor * Albert Carrasco * Hülya N. Yilmaz
Jackie Davis Allen * Caroline Nazareno * Eliza Segiet
Alicja Maria Kuberska * Teresa E. Gallion * Joe Paire
Kimberly Burnham * Shareef Abdur - Rasheed
Ashok K. Bhargava * Elizabeth Castillo * Swapna Behera
Tezmin Ition Tsai * William S. Peters, Sr.

The Year of the Poet VI
October 2019

Featured Poets
Ngozi Olivia Osocha * Denisa Kondić
Pankhuri Sinha * Christena AV Williams



The Nile Valley
The Poetry Posse 2019
Gail Weston Shazor * Albert Carrasco * Hülya N. Yilmaz
Jackie Davis Allen * Caroline Nazareno * Eliza Segiet
Alicja Maria Kuberska * Teresa E. Gallion * Joe Paire
Kimberly Burnham * Shareef Abdur - Rasheed
Ashok K. Bhargava * Elizabeth Castillo * Swapna Behera
Tezmin Ition Tsai * William S. Peters, Sr.

The Year of the Poet VI
November 2019

Featured Poets
Rozalia Aleksandrova * Orbindu Ganga
Smriti Ranjan Mohanty * Sofia Skleida



Northern Asia
The Poetry Posse 2019
Gail Weston Shazor * Albert Carrasco * Hülya N. Yilmaz
Jackie Davis Allen * Caroline Nazareno * Eliza Segiet
Alicja Maria Kuberska * Teresa E. Gallion * Joe Paire
Kimberly Burnham * Shareef Abdur - Rasheed
Ashok K. Bhargava * Elizabeth Castillo * Swapna Behera
Tezmin Ition Tsai * William S. Peters, Sr.

The Year of the Poet VI
December 2019

Featured Poets
Rahim Karim (Karimov) * Sujata Paul
Bhurati Nayak * Kapardeli Elitschik



Oceania
The Poetry Posse 2019
Gail Weston Shazor * Albert Carrasco * Hülya N. Yilmaz
Jackie Davis Allen * Caroline Nazareno * Eliza Segiet
Alicja Maria Kuberska * Teresa E. Gallion * Joe Paire
Kimberly Burnham * Shareef Abdur - Rasheed
Ashok K. Bhargava * Elizabeth Castillo * Swapna Behera
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The Year of the Poet VII

January 2020

Featured Poets

B S Tyagi * Ashok Chakravarthy Tholana
Andy Scott * Anwer Ghani

1901 Jean Henry Dumant & Frédéric Passy



The Year of Peace

Celebrating past Nobel Peace Prize Recipients

The Poetry Posse 2020

Gail Weston Shazor * Albert Carasso * Hülya N. Yilmaz
Jackie Davis Allen * Caroline Nazareno * Eliza Segiet
Alicja Maria Kuberska * Teresa E. Gallion * Joe Paire
Kimberly Burnham * Shareef Abdur - Rasheed
Ashok K. Bhargava * Elizabeth Castillo * Swapna Behera
Tezmin Ition Tsai * William S. Peters, Sr.

The Year of the Poet VII

February 2020

Featured Poets

Jennifer Ades * Martina Reisz Newberry
Ibrahim Honjo * Claudia Piccinno

Henri La Fontaine ~ 1913



The Year of Peace

Celebrating past Nobel Peace Prize Recipients

The Poetry Posse 2020

Gail Weston Shazor * Albert Carasso * Hülya N. Yilmaz
Jackie Davis Allen * Caroline Nazareno * Eliza Segiet
Alicja Maria Kuberska * Teresa E. Gallion * Joe Paire
Kimberly Burnham * Shareef Abdur - Rasheed
Ashok K. Bhargava * Elizabeth Castillo * Swapna Behera
Tezmin Ition Tsai * William S. Peters, Sr.

The Year of the Poet VII

March 2020

Featured Poets

Aziz Mountassar * Krishna Paraisa
Hannie Rouweler * Rozalia Aleksandrova

Aristide Briand ~ 1926 ~ Gustav Stresemann



The Year of Peace

Celebrating past Nobel Peace Prize Recipients

The Poetry Posse 2020

Gail Weston Shazor * Albert Carasso * Hülya N. Yilmaz
Jackie Davis Allen * Caroline Nazareno * Eliza Segiet
Alicja Maria Kuberska * Teresa E. Gallion * Joe Paire
Kimberly Burnham * Shareef Abdur - Rasheed
Ashok K. Bhargava * Elizabeth Castillo * Swapna Behera
Tezmin Ition Tsai * William S. Peters, Sr.

The Year of the Poet VII

April 2020

Featured Poets

Rohini Behera * Mircea Dan Duta
Monalisa Dash Dwivedy * NilavroNill Shoovro

Carlos Saavedra Lamas ~ 1936



The Year of Peace

Celebrating past Nobel Peace Prize Recipients

The Poetry Posse 2020

Gail Weston Shazor * Albert Carasso * Hülya N. Yilmaz
Jackie Davis Allen * Caroline Nazareno * Eliza Segiet
Alicja Maria Kuberska * Teresa E. Gallion * Joe Paire
Kimberly Burnham * Shareef Abdur - Rasheed
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The Year of the Poet VII

May 2020

Featured Poets

Alok Kumar Ray * Eden S. Trinidad
Franco Barbato * Izabela Zubko

Ralph Bunche ~ 1960



The Year of Peace

Celebrating past Nobel Peace Prize Recipients

The Poetry Posse 2020

Gail Weston Shazor * Albert Carasco * Hülya N. Yilmaz
Jackie Davis Allen * Caroline Nazareno * Eliza Segiet
Alicja Maria Kuberska * Teresa E. Gallion * Joe Paire
Kimberly Burnham * Shareef Abdur - Rasheed
Ashok K. Bhargava * Elizabeth Castillo * Swapna Behera
Tezmin Ition Tsai * William S. Peters, Sr.

The Year of the Poet VII

June 2020

Featured Poets

Efichia Kapardeli * Metin Cengiz
Hussein Habasch * Kosh K. Mathew

Albert John Lutuli ~ 1960



The Year of Peace

Celebrating past Nobel Peace Prize Recipients

The Poetry Posse 2020

Gail Weston Shazor * Albert Carasco * Hülya N. Yilmaz
Jackie Davis Allen * Caroline Nazareno * Eliza Segiet
Alicja Maria Kuberska * Teresa E. Gallion * Joe Paire
Kimberly Burnham * Shareef Abdur - Rasheed
Ashok K. Bhargava * Elizabeth Castillo * Swapna Behera
Tezmin Ition Tsai * William S. Peters, Sr.

The Year of the Poet VII

July 2020

Featured Poets

Mykola Martyniuk * Orbindu Ganga
Roula Pollard * Karn Praktisha

Norman Ernest Borlaug ~ 1970



The Year of Peace

Celebrating past Nobel Peace Prize Recipients

The Poetry Posse 2020

Gail Weston Shazor * Albert Carasco * Hülya N. Yilmaz
Jackie Davis Allen * Caroline Nazareno * Eliza Segiet
Alicja Maria Kuberska * Teresa E. Gallion * Joe Paire
Kimberly Burnham * Shareef Abdur - Rasheed
Ashok K. Bhargava * Elizabeth Castillo * Swapna Behera
Tezmin Ition Tsai * William S. Peters, Sr.

The Year of the Poet VII

August 2020

Featured Poets

Dr Pragna Suman * Chinh Nguyen
Srinivas Vasudev * Ugwu Leonard Ifeanyi, Jr.

Adolfo Pérez Esquivel ~ 1980



The Year of Peace

Celebrating past Nobel Peace Prize Recipients

The Poetry Posse 2020

Gail Weston Shazor * Albert Carasco * Hülya N. Yilmaz
Jackie Davis Allen * Caroline Nazareno * Eliza Segiet
Alicja Maria Kuberska * Teresa E. Gallion * Joe Paire
Kimberly Burnham * Shareef Abdur - Rasheed
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The Year of the Poet VII

September 2020

Featured Poets

Raed Anis Al-Jishi • Sotkenović Snežana
Dr. Brajesh Kumar Gupta • Umid Najjari

Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev ~ 1990



The Year of Peace

Celebrating past Nobel Peace Prize Recipients

The Poetry Posse 2020

Gail Weston Shazor • Albert Carasso • Hülya N. Yilmaz
Jackie Davis Allen • Caroline Nazareno • Eliza Segiet
Alicja Maria Kuberska • Teresa E. Gallion • Joe Patte
Kimberly Burnham • Shareef Abdur ~ Rasheed
Ashok K. Bhargava • Elizabeth Castillo • Swapna Behera
Tezmin Ition Tsai • William S. Peters, Sr.

The Year of the Poet VII

October 2020

Featured Poets

Mutawaf A. Shaheed • Galina Itlyanskaya
Nadeem Fraz • Avril Tanya Meallem

Kim Dae-jung ~ 2000



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The Year of the Poet VII

November 2020

Featured Poets

Elisa Mascia • Sue Lindenberg McClelland
Hatif Janabi • Ivan Gacina

Liu Xiaobo ~ 2010



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The Year of the Poet VII

December 2020

Featured Poets

Ratan Ghosh • Jbtisam Ibrahim Al-Asady
Brindha Vinodh • Selma Kopic

Abiy Ahmed Ali ~ 2019



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The Year of the Poet VIII

January 2021

Featured Global Poets

Andrew Scott * Debaprasanna Biswas
Shakil Kalam * Changming Yuan

Banksy's The Girl with the Pierced Eardrum



Poetry ... Ekphrastically Speaking

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The Year of the Poet VIII

February 2021

Featured Global Poets

T. Ramesh Babu * Ruchida Barman
Neptune Barman * Faleeha Hassan

Emory Douglas : 1968 Olympics mural



Poetry ... Ekphrastically Speaking

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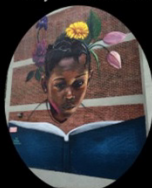
The Year of the Poet VIII

March 2021

Featured Global Poets

Claudia Piccinno * Mohammed Jabr
Luzviminda Rivera * Nigar Arif

Tatyana Fazlalizadeh



Poetry ... Ekphrastically Speaking

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The Year of the Poet VIII

April 2021

Featured Global Poets

Katarzyna Brus- Sawczuk * Anwesha Paul
Rozalia Aleksandrova * Shahid Abbas

Pablo O'Higgins



Poetry ... Ekphrastically Speaking

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Jaydeep Sarangi * Bismay Mohanty

Diego Rivera



Poetry ... Ekphrastically Speaking

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The Year of the Poet VIII

June 2021

Featured Global Poets

Alonzo "ZO" Gross * Lali Tsipi Michaeli
Tareq al Karmy * Tirthendu Ganguly

Rayen Kang



Poetry ... Ekphrastically Speaking

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The Year of the Poet VIII

July 2021

Featured Global Poets

Iram Jaan * Vesna Mundishevska-Veljanovska
Ngozi Olivia Osuoha * Lan Qyqalla

Goncalao Mabunda



Poetry ... Ekphrastically Speaking

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The Year of the Poet VIII

August 2021

Featured Global Poets

Caroline Laurent Turunc * Kamal Dhungana
Pankhuri Sinha * Paramita Mukherjee Mullick

Mundara Koorang



Poetry ... Ekphrastically Speaking

The Poetry Posse 2021

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The Year of the Poet VIII

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Featured Global Poets

Monsif Beroual * Sandesh Ghimire

Sharmila Poudel * Pavol Janik

Heather Jansch



Poetry ... Ekphrastically Speaking

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Alicja Maria Kuberska * Teresa E. Gallion * Joe Paite

Kimberly Burnham * Shareef Abdur - Rasheed

Ashok K. Bhargava * Elizabeth Castillo * Swapna Behera

Tezmin Ition Tsai * William S. Peters, Sr.

The Year of the Poet VIII

October 2021

Featured Global Poets

C. E. Shy * Saswata Ganguly

Suranjit Gain * Hasiba Hilal

Dale Lamphere



Poetry ... Ekphrastically Speaking

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Alicja Maria Kuberska * Teresa E. Gallion * Joe Paite

Kimberly Burnham * Shareef Abdur - Rasheed

Ashok K. Bhargava * Elizabeth Castillo * Swapna Behera

Tezmin Ition Tsai * William S. Peters, Sr.

The Year of the Poet VIII

November 2021

Featured Global Poets

Errol D. Bean * Ibrahim Honjo

Tanja Ajtic * Rajashree Mohapatra

Andy Goldsworthy



Poetry ... Ekphrastically Speaking

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The Year of the Poet VIII

December 2021

Featured Global Poets

Orbinda Ganga * Fadaïro Tesleem

Anthony Arnold * Iyad Shamasnah

Fredric Edwin Church



Poetry ... Ekphrastically Speaking

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The Year of the Poet IX

January 2022

Featured Global Poets

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Andrew Scott * Ashok Kumar

Climate Change : The Ice Cap



Poetry . . . Ekphrastically Speaking

The Poetry Posse 2021

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Alicja Maria Kuberska * Teresa E. Gallion * Joe Paire
Kimberly Burnham * Shareef Abdur - Rasheed
Ashok K. Bhargava * Elizabeth Castillo * Swapna Behera
Tezmin Ition Tsai * William S. Peters, Sr.

The Year of the Poet IX

February 2022

Featured Global Poets

Roza Boyanova * Ramón de Jesús Núñez Duval
Mammad Ismayil * Tarana Turan Rahimli

Climate Change and Mountains



Poetry . . . Ekphrastically Speaking

The Poetry Posse 2021

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Ashok K. Bhargava * Elizabeth Castillo * Swapna Behera
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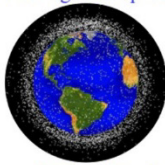
The Year of the Poet IX

March 2022

Featured Global Poets

Dimitris P. Kraniotis * Marlene Pasini
Kennedy Ochieng * Swayam Prashant

Climate Change and Space Debris



Poetry . . . Ekphrastically Speaking

The Poetry Posse 2021

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Ashok K. Bhargava * Elizabeth Castillo * Swapna Behera
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The Year of the Poet IX

April 2022

Featured Global Poets

Alonzo Gross * Dr. Debaprasanna Biswas
Monsif Beroual * Carol Aronoff

Climate Change and Oceans



*Celebrating our 100th Edition *

Poetry . . . Ekphrastically Speaking

The Poetry Posse 2021

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The Year of the Poet IX

May 2022

Featured Global Poets

Ndaba Sibanda * Smrutiranjana Mohanty
Ajanta Paul * Monalisa Dash Dwibedy

Climate Change and Birds



Poetry . . . Ekphrastically Speaking

The Poetry Posse 2021

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Alicja Maria Kuberska * Teresa E. Gallion * Joe Paire
Kimberly Burnham * Shareef Abdur - Rasheed
Ashok K. Bhargava * Elizabeth Castillo * Swapna Behera
Tezmin Ition Tsai * William S. Peters, Sr.

The Year of the Poet IX

June 2022

Featured Global Poets

Yuan Changming * Azeezat Okunlola
Tanja Ajtić * Philip Chijioke Abonyi

Climate Change and Trees



Poetry . . . Ekphrastically Speaking

The Poetry Posse 2022

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Alicja Maria Kuberska * Teresa E. Gallion * Joe Paire
Kimberly Burnham * Shareef Abdur - Rasheed
Ashok K. Bhargava * Elizabeth Castillo * Swapna Behera
Tezmin Ition Tsai * William S. Peters, Sr.

The Year of the Poet IX

July 2022

Featured Global Poets

Michelle Joan Barulich * Mili Das
Anna Ferriero * Ujjal Mandal

Climate Change and Animals



Poetry . . . Ekphrastically Speaking

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The Year of the Poet IX

August 2022

Featured Global Poets

Pankhuri Sinha * Abdulloh Abdumominov
Caroline Turunc * Tali Cohen Shabtai

Climate Change and Agriculture



Poetry . . . Ekphrastically Speaking

The Poetry Posse 2022

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September 2022

Featured Global Poets

Ngozi Olivia Osuoha * Biswajit Mishra
Sylvia K. Malinowska * Sajid Hussein

Climate Change and Wind and Weather Patterns



Poetry ... Ekphrastically Speaking

The Poetry Posse 2022

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Alicja Maria Kuberska * Teresa E. Gallion * Joe Paire
Kimberly Burnham * Shareef Abdur - Rasheed
Ashok K. Bhargava * Elizabeth Castillo * Swapna Behera
Tezmin Ition Tsai * William S. Peters, Sr.

The Year of the Poet IX

October 2022

Featured Global Poets

Andrew Kouroupos * Brenda Mohammed
Carthornia Kouroupos * Faleeha Hassan

Climate Change and Oil and Power



Poetry ... Ekphrastically Speaking

The Poetry Posse 2022

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Alicja Maria Kuberska * Teresa E. Gallion * Joe Paire
Kimberly Burnham * Shareef Abdur - Rasheed
Ashok K. Bhargava * Elizabeth Castillo * Swapna Behera
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The Year of the Poet IX

November 2022

Featured Global Poets

Hema Ravi * Shafkat Aziz Hajam
Selma Kopic * Ibrahim Honjo

Climate Change: Time to Act



Poetry ... Ekphrastically Speaking

The Poetry Posse 2022

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The Year of the Poet IX

December 2022

Featured Global Poets

Elarbi Abdelfattah * Lorraine Cragg
Neha Bhandarkar * Robert Gibbons

Climate Change Bees, Butterflies and Insect Life



Poetry ... Ekphrastically Speaking

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The Year of the Poet X January 2023

Featured Global Poets

JuNe Barefield * Swayam Prashant
Willow Rose * Shabbirhussein K. Jamnagerwalla

Children: Difference Makers



Iqbal Masih

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Michelle Joan Barulich * Shareef Abdur - Rasheed
Ashok K. Bhargava * Elizabeth Castillo * Swapna Behera
Tezmin Ition Tsai * Eliza Segiet * William S. Peters, Sr.

The Year of the Poet X February 2023

Featured Global Poets

Christena Williams * Hilda Graciela Kraft
Francesco Favetta * Dr. H.C. Louise Hudon

Children: Difference Makers



Ruby Bridges

The Poetry Posse 2023

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The Year of the Poet X March 2023

Featured Global Poets

Clarena Martinez Turizo * Binod Dawadi
Til Kumari Sharma * Petrouchka Alexieva

Children: Difference Makers



Yo Yo Ma

The Poetry Posse 2023

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The Year of the Poet X April 2023

Featured Global Poets

Maxwanette A Poetess * Alonzo Gross
Türkan Ergör * Ibrahim Honjo

Children: Difference Makers



Claudette Colvin

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Taghrid Bou Merhi * Yasmin Brown
Children : Difference Makers



Louis Braille

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Michelle Joan Barulich * Shareef Abdur - Rasheed
Ashok K. Bhargava * Elizabeth Castillo * Swapna Behera
Tezmin Ition Tsai * Eliza Segiet * William S. Peters, Sr.

The Year of the Poet X June 2023

Featured Global Poets

Kay Peters * Carthornia Kouroupos
Andrew Kouroupos * Falecha Hassan

Children : Difference Makers



Ryan Hreljac

The Poetry Posse 2023

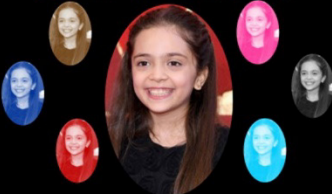
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Alicia Maria Kuberska * Teresa E. Gallion * Joe Paire
Michelle Joan Barulich * Shareef Abdur - Rasheed
Ashok K. Bhargava * Elizabeth Castillo * Swapna Behera
Tezmin Ition Tsai * Eliza Segiet * William S. Peters, Sr.

The Year of the Poet X July 2023

Featured Global Poets

Rajashree Mohapatra * Biswajit Mishra
Johan Karlsson * Teodozja Świdarska

Children : Difference Makers



~ Bana al-Abed ~

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Alicia Maria Kuberska * Teresa E. Gallion * Joe Paire
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The Year of the Poet X August 2023

Featured Global Poets

Kennedy Wanda Ochieng * Jose Lopez
Sylvia K. Malinowska * Laurent Grison

Children : Difference Makers



~ Kelvin Doe ~

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Alicia Maria Kuberska * Teresa E. Gallion * Joe Paire
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The Year of the Poet X September 2023

Featured Global Poets

Effichia Karpadeli * Chinh Nguyen
Nigar Agalarova * Carmela Cueva

Children : Difference Makers



~ Easton LaChappelle ~

The Poetry Posse 2023

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Jackie Davis Allen * Caroline Nazareno * Kimberly Burnham
Alicia Maria Kuberska * Teresa E. Gallion * Joe Paire
Michelle Joan Barulich * Shareef Abdur - Rasheed
Ashok K. Bhargava * Elizabeth Castillo * Swapna Behera
Tezmin Ition Tsai * Eliza Segiet * William S. Peters, Sr.

The Year of the Poet X October 2023

Featured Global Poets

CSP Shrivastava * Hunie Parker
Noreen Snyder * Ramkrishna Paul

Children : Difference Makers



~ Malala Yousafzai ~

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Jackie Davis Allen * Caroline Nazareno * Kimberly Burnham
Alicia Maria Kuberska * Teresa E. Gallion * Joe Paire
Michelle Joan Barulich * Shareef Abdur - Rasheed
Ashok K. Bhargava * Elizabeth Castillo * Swapna Behera
Tezmin Ition Tsai * Eliza Segiet * William S. Peters, Sr.

The Year of the Poet X November 2023

Featured Global Poets

Ibrahim Honjo * Balachandran Nair
Xanthi Hondrou-Hil * Francesco Favetta

Children : Difference Makers



~ Jean-Michel Basquiat ~

The Poetry Posse 2023

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Alicia Maria Kuberska * Teresa E. Gallion * Joe Paire
Michelle Joan Barulich * Shareef Abdur - Rasheed
Ashok K. Bhargava * Elizabeth Castillo * Swapna Behera
Tezmin Ition Tsai * Eliza Segiet * William S. Peters, Sr.

The Year of the Poet X December 2023

Featured Global Poets

Caroline Laurent Turunc * Neha Bhandarkar
Shafkat Aziz Hajam * Elarbi Abdelfattah

Children : Difference Makers



~ Melati and Isabel Wijsen ~

The Poetry Posse 2023

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Alicia Maria Kuberska * Teresa E. Gallion * Joe Paire
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The Year of the Poet XI January 2024

Featured Global Poets

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Daniela Marian * Eleni Vassiliou – Asteroskon

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~ Phyllis Wheatley ~

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~ Omar Khayyam ~

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~ Nâzım Hikmet ~

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~ William Butler Yeats ~

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~ Langston Hughs ~

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~ Pablo Neruda ~

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~ Li Bai ~

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~ William Ernest Henley ~

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Adnan Al-Sayegh * Taghrid Bou Merhi

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~ Adam Mickiewicz ~

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~ Wole Soyinka ~

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~ Imru' al-Qais ~

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Innocence
Daisy



Joy
Marigold



Longing
Camellia

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Muhammad Gaddafi Masoud * Karen Morrison



Curiosity
Hibiscus



Fear
Minulus



Lonlines
Butterfly Weed

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Faleeha Hassan * Kapardeli Eftichia



Frustration
Petunias



Sorrow
Purple Hyacinth



Detrmination
Amaryllis

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Irma Kurti * Marlon Salem Gruezo



Resilience
Calendula



Self Doubt
Centauray



Grief
Chrysanthemums

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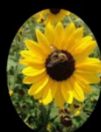
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Kazimierz Burnat * Deepak Kumar Dey



Bittersweetness
Bittersweetness



Empathy
Lillies



Sadness
Sunflowers

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Love
Red Roses



Gratitude
Blue Hydrangea



Contentment
Azure Bluets

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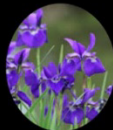
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Nostalgia
Lillacs



Wisdom
Purple Iris



Fearlessness
Gladiolas

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Ibrahim Honjo * Kazimierz Burnat



Connection
Sunflower



Fulfillment
Lotus



Hope
Daffodils

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Shahid Abbas Shahid * Snežana Šolkotović



Isolation
Water Violet



Empowerment
Sunflower



Confusion
Pink Larkspur

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Featured Global Poets

Фросина Тасевска * Tanja Ajtic
Jerome L. Duque * Priyanka Neogi



Anticipation
Anemone



Pride
Amaryllis



Regret
Purple Hyacinths

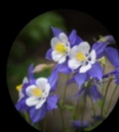
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Featured Global Poets

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Hong Ngoc Chau * D. Wahida Hussein



Anxiety
Columbine



Peacefulness
Peace Lily



Grief
Orchids

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Featured Global Poets

Elizabeth Cassidy * Neha Bhandarkar
Sajid Hussain * Mirjana Stefanicki Antonić



Transcendence
Water Lily



Legacy
Forget-me-nots



Satisfaction
Daisies

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The Mongol Civilization

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The Aztec Civilization

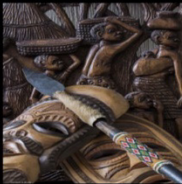
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Niloy Rafiq * Paraskevi Memou



The Zulu Civilization

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Mesopotamia

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Native American

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Hellenistic

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Persian

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The Ottoman Empire

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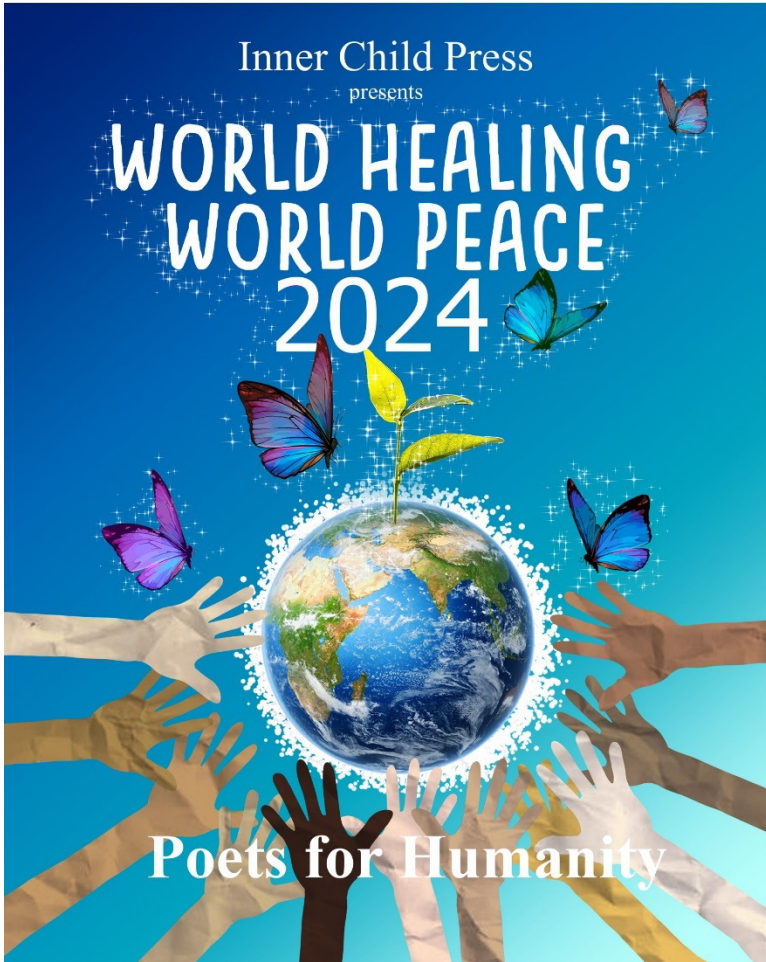


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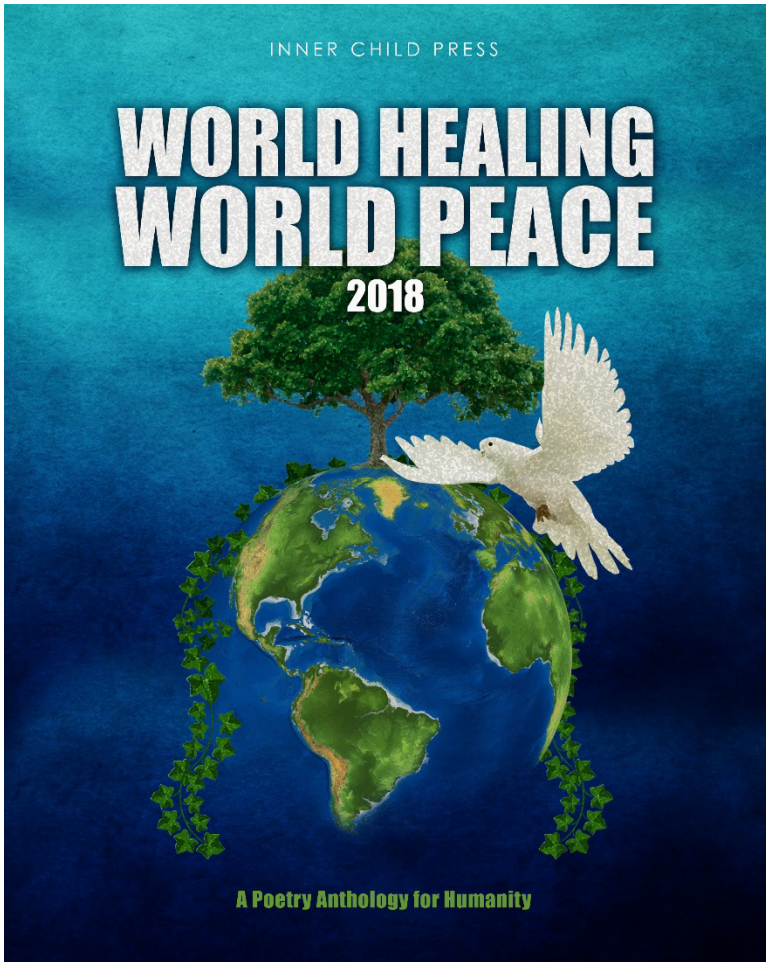


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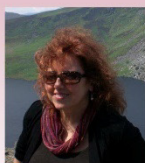
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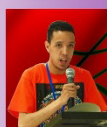
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