

# The Year of the Poet X

January 2023

## Featured Global Poets

JuNe Barefield \* Swayam Prashant

Willow Rose \* Shabbirhusein K Jamnagerwalla

## Children: Difference Makers



## Iqbal Masih

### The Poetry Posse 2023

Gail Weston Shazor \* Albert Carasco \* Hülya N. Yılmaz  
Jackie Davis Allen \* Caroline Nazareno \* Kimberly Burnham  
Alicja 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  
January 2023

**The Poetry Posse**

*inner child press, ltd.*

# The Poetry Posse 2023

Gail Weston Shazor  
Shareef Abdur Rasheed  
Teresa E. Gallion  
hülya n. yılmaz  
Kimberly Burnham  
Tzemin Ition Tsai  
Elizabeth Esguerra Castillo  
Jackie Davis Allen  
Joe Paire  
Caroline 'Ceri' Nazareno  
Ashok K. Bhargava  
Alicja Maria Kuberska  
Swapna Behera  
Albert 'Infinite' Carrasco  
Michelle Joan Barulich  
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 X January 2023 Edition

### The Poetry Posse

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WHAT WOULD  
**L**IFE  
BE WITHOUT  
A LITTLE  
**P**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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# Foreword

## Children: Difference Makers

Iqbal Masih

Childhood is a time of exploring and learning about the world for many children. It is a time to test the boundaries, to enjoy the crunch of breakfast cereal before school, where maybe your favorite class is math and maybe it is lunch period. Often, it is in schools navigating learning and social situations that leaders are honed. Many of us would agree that the children of today are the leaders of tomorrow. But for some children there are no pens and papers, no books and hot lunches, childhood can be harsh and abusive.

This year at *The Year of The Poet*, we turn our attention to the children of the world and in particular a dozen young people who started making their mark on the world at a young age. The Inner Child Press Poetry Posse will highlight the contribution of children like Iqbal Masih from Muridke, Pakistan, a very poor town. He started out with a normal childhood, playing and enjoying friends. Adult worries changed the course of his life when his parents, 800 rupees (\$12) in debt for his older brother's wedding, struggled to make ends meet. They sold Iqbal to a carpet factory in 1987 at the age of four. He worked there for six years before escaping and then looking beyond his own pain, he

helped more than 3000 other children escape child slavery.

Each month the poets of *The Year of the Poet* will shine a light on the work of one remarkable child, highlighting not only what young people are capable of but also turning towards problems in the world and working towards solutions.

If Iqbal could free himself and then thousands of other children, we can free ourselves from harsh realities, limiting beliefs, anger and hate and look outside of ourselves. Together, we can change the world, making it better for the leaders of tomorrow and for ourselves and our families.

In Judaism we talk about and take seriously the idea of Tikun Olam—our responsibility to heal the world. There is much that each of us, from a place of our varying degrees of privilege, can do.

Change the world for good is at the top of my New Year's Resolutions for 2023.

I hope you enjoy these poetic offerings and make your mark on the world in the coming year and for many years beyond.

Kimberly Burnham, Ph.D.  
Integrative Medicine

Spokane, WA

# Preface

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

We are so excited as we have now entered our **10th** year of monthly publication of our enterprise, **The Year of the Poet**. 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 2023.

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](http://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](http://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](http://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.

Poet, Writer, Activist, Humanitarian

William S. Peters, Sr.

Publisher

Inner Child Press International

[www.innerchildpress.com](http://www.innerchildpress.com)

# Children

## Difference Makers

### Iqbal Masih

January 2023  
by Kimberly Burnham, Ph.D.

Iqbal Masih was a Pakistani boy who escaped child slavery at the age of 10 and became a leader in the movement to put an end to child slavery once and for all. He helped over 3,000 children escape bondage and traveled the globe speaking out against the issue. Masih was assassinated when he was 12 and roughly 800 people attended his funeral service. However, his legacy lives on well beyond his death. In 2009, Congress started an annual award in his name given to activists fighting to end child labor.

“Children should have pens in their hands not tools.” — Iqbal Masih



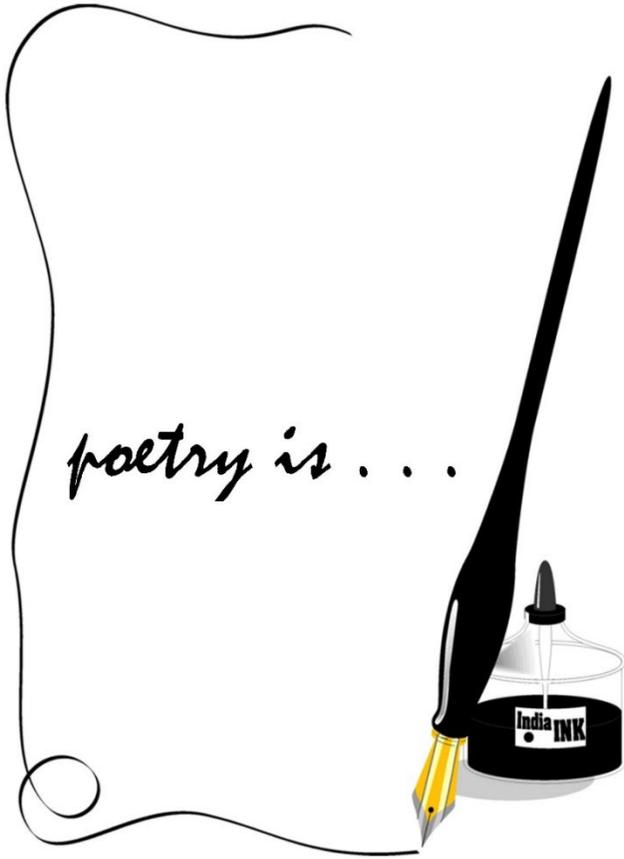




Poets, Writers . . . know that we are the enchanting magicians that nourishes the seeds of dreams and thoughts . . . it is our words that entice the hearts and minds of others to believe there is something grand about the possibilities that life has to offer and our words tease it forth into action .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

~ wsp

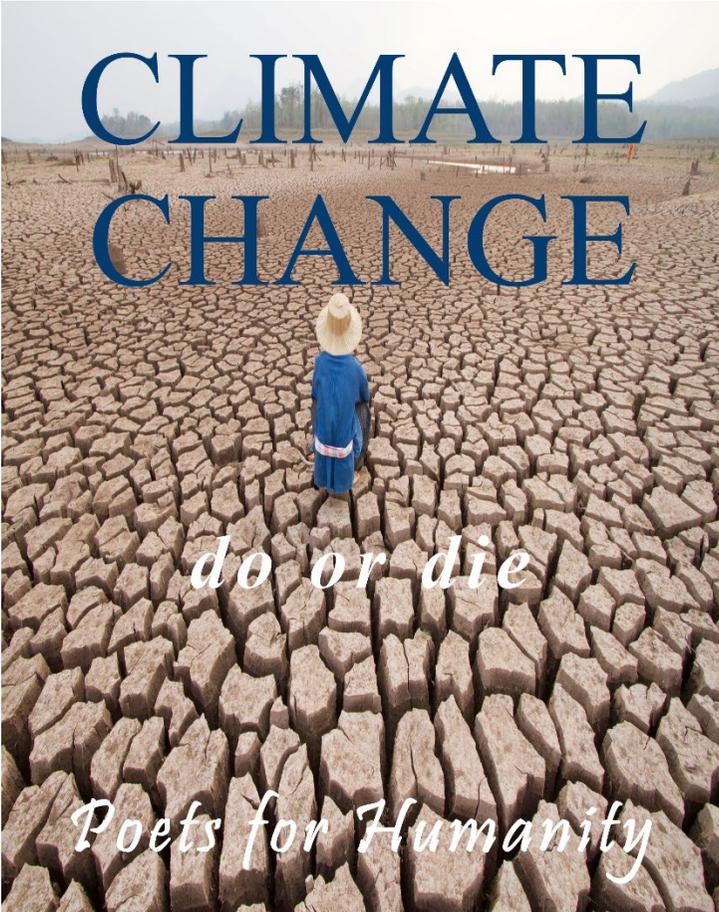




*Poetry succeeds where instruction fails.*

~ wsp

*Now Available*



[innerchildpressanthologies@gmail.com](mailto:innerchildpressanthologies@gmail.com)

Gail  
Weston  
Shazor

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This is a creative promise ~ my pen will speak to and for the world. Enamored with letters and respectful of their power, I have been writing for most of my life. A mother, daughter, sister and grandmother I give what I have been given, greatfilledly.

Author of . . .

"An Overstanding of an Imperfect Love"  
&  
Notes from the Blue Roof

Lies My Grandfathers Told Me

available at Inner Child Press.

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## For the child of beautiful women

She sings to me in her dreams  
Whispering the soft cooing sounds  
Meant to grow men boys  
Into old men  
And the sun weeps

There is a notion that  
To start early  
Increases the years of productivity  
That fills pockets  
And the dirt cries

There is no lush greenness  
Inside of boarded up walls  
The dust plays in the beams of light  
That forces its way into cobwebs  
And bellies moan

Sometimes we have to wait  
For sleep to come to our captives  
To have a moments rest  
From the long work days  
And our minds plan

Our mothers call  
And it oozes up from cinnamon colored soil  
As it always the case  
On sounds on the wind  
And we whisper back

We will come to you  
When we can  
Until we can't anymore

**"It is impossible to kill a beautiful woman  
with a bullet"**

(inspired by Ali Abdolrezaci)

...~for all women who are unsafe in this world

She speaks to me  
when i am not listening  
and blues fall from  
the lips of weeping willows  
when it is nearly dusk

There is a notion  
that there is a gentility  
in warm breezes  
even on hot summer days  
such as this one

She calls to me  
in her particular view  
of the world she inhabits  
secrets finding the cortex  
of my unknown experiences

The lush greenness  
of the elongated fronds  
falling knifelike into the dusk  
holding her secrets beneath  
in any gust of wind

She whispers to me  
her voice rising from cinnamon stained soil  
as is always the case under trees  
her unnamed sin purpling  
in the waning sun

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Every breeze sings her  
as she waits for me  
refracting in an impossible light  
swinging grace unspent  
from the end of a secret

It is impossible to kill  
a beautiful woman with a bullet  
as it is impossible to change beauty  
into anything other than its increase  
we wait for the world to change

## Senryu Quintet and a Rhyming Couplet for flavoring

For i have been told  
That obedience is the key  
to abundant life

"Just do what I ask  
It really is little things  
that will prepare you"

I am hardheaded  
so have put this to the test  
time and time again

In it all i have  
found the reason to live and  
the reason to love

My mother taught me all these things  
because of this i can now sing

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Alicja  
Maria  
Kuberska

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## The Year of the Poet X ~ January 2023

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).

## Iqbal Masih

The little heart carried  
the great sadness of all slaves  
Children's tears  
like drops of monsoon rain  
washed away the enormity  
of suffering over the years.

Look at him  
– he was the small boy,  
who challenged the world  
and demanded  
his stolen childhood back.

Greedy world must change  
and end the child slavery.  
It has to admit its guilt, too  
- the sin of omission,  
indifference and cruelty.

The Pakistani boy was killed  
but nobody can trap  
the words he shouted.  
They ignited like sparks  
the world's rotten conscience

## Weak Woman

She was told she was beautiful  
like a girl from a renaissance portrait,  
limp as a reed and weak as an ivy.

She believed  
that she needed to find her prince  
mighty and oak-like,  
to writhe among the branches,  
follow the sun  
and sparkle in its golden rays.

The storm has come.  
It shattered the great tree,  
lightning burned  
her magnificent crown  
There's nothing left.

She's still beautiful  
like a lady from an old picture.  
She understood that  
the wind would not break the reed,  
the ivy can climb rocks  
and head towards the stars.

## A Prayer of Thanks

I partake in everyday miracles.  
Incredible how often God visits the Earth.  
Unnoticed he comes daily.

He lets breathe the first breath on the day of birth,  
makes a dried seed sprout  
and a small sapling grow into a huge tree.

He puts stones in lush apricots,  
gives sweetness to ripe fruits,  
sprinkles pollen onto the wings of bees.

Thank you Lord for the gift of life  
and the freedom of choice,  
for the received grace of forgiveness.  
I am grateful for your goodness and love.

Jackie  
Davis  
Allen

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## The Year of the Poet X ~ January 2023

Jackie Davis Allen, otherwise known as Jacqueline D. Allen or Jackie Allen, grew up in the Cumberland Mountains of Appalachia. As the next eldest daughter of a coal miner father and a stay at home mother, she was the first in her family to attend and graduate from college. Her siblings, in their own right, are accomplished, though she is the only one, to date, that has discovered the gift of writing.

Graduating from Radford University, with a Bachelor's of Science degree in Early Education, she taught in both public and private schools. For over a decade she taught private art classes to children both in her home and at a local Art and Framing Shop where she also sold her original soft sculptured Victorian dolls and original christening gowns.

She resides in northern Virginia with her husband, taking much needed get-aways to their mountain home near the Blue Ridge Mountains, a place that evokes memories of days spent growing up in the Appalachian Mountains.

A lover of hats, she has worn many. Following marriage to her college sweetheart, and as wife, mother, grandmother, teacher, tutor, artist, writer, poet and crafter, she is a lover of art and antiques, surrounding herself, always, with books, seeking to learn more.

In 2015 she authored *Looking for Rainbows, Poetry, Prose and Art*, and in 2017, *Dark Side of the Moon*. Both books of mostly narrative poetry were published by Inner Child Press and were edited by hulya n. yilmaz in 2019, *No Illusions. Through the Looking Glass*, which was nominated to be considered for a Pulitzer Prize by the publisher and editor of Inner Child Press, ltd.

<http://www.innerchildpress.com/jackie-davis-allen.php>  
[jackiedavisallen.com](http://jackiedavisallen.com)

## Window of Opportunity

Oh, its a lonely place.  
No family or friends for company;  
Far away from home, held hostage  
Through no fault of his own.

Oh, its a hard life he's living.  
Night and day, always worked to the bone.  
Though his body is weak, determination,  
Heart and mind are passionately strong.

Someway, somehow, he's going home!  
O Lord, he's come up with a secret plan,  
Even still, behind a mask of passivity,  
His captors think they have won.

No matter the cost, the price, the risk,  
All he needs is a sliver of light,  
A crack in the window of opportunity,  
And his wings will take flight.

O Freedom, sweet Freedom's shore!  
Bruised and stained, still he sings for joy!  
He's home, singing a song, paid by  
The stripes and bruises he wears.

## Are You Ready?

This is the day! This is the day!  
This is the long awaited day.  
And, are you ready, prepared  
To seize the opportunity?

Are you content to procrastinate,  
To simply dream about that  
Which has been calling your name?  
Haunting your days, nights, blinded to possibilities?

Will you step out, today,  
Out of your comfort level,  
And, with eyes wide open, focused,  
Pick yourself up; and run after the prize!

With confidence, choose to step  
Into freedom's dream;  
The one that, night and day,  
Has been calling your name.

## Leading by Example

Unguarded, the door before you.  
The key in your hand; are you willing  
To venture outside of your cocoon?  
Ready to think for yourself?

Despite the mind, drugged high  
On the remains of propagandists' bile,  
Are you content to drink at their bidding?  
Or are you seeking Freedom's shore?

Neither compliant or a slave,  
If freedom is what you seek,  
Freedom from mind control,  
Break through the fog of hesitancy.

Throw off the chains of double-speak  
Become the change the world needs.

Tzemin  
Ition  
Tsai

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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.

## Carpet Monogatari

I have no intention of wrapping  
The debt of 5000 rupees who  
Revealed himself in an overwhelming manner  
On the surface of the carpet full of redbuds  
Before fully awakening

Whatever, before my heels  
It's his thin body that's tightly bound  
Or the medal of Sitara-e-Shujaat with endless taunts  
Labor or slavery trapped in bonded work  
The preliminary probe to read the real world at the tender  
age of five

The dark country road before dawn  
Alas, there is no end to life and death  
Why the child is chained tightly to  
The debt won't be paid off anytime soon  
carpet loom

He tore me apart  
Like horse and cow fur under a heavy knife with a golden  
blade  
Imprisoned, that night after being tortured all-day  
Where will there be the silence that can tell the autumn  
evening  
Digging the ground is hard to find, the cry of the beast that  
should have been brought back long ago

## Wind Sun Road In The Village

This year's spring and summer  
Concerned about the green grapefruit  
This year's autumn and winter  
Day by day counting the days to bear fruit  
deeply afraid  
the flowers have credit  
But people love to lie  
the fruit hasn't fallen yet  
Hastily came to the alleys full of pomelo  
Ask people nearby  
Since time is light  
Passers-by  
Why is there such a hurry?  
This is our walk  
We laughed and let the alleys wash away the dust  
west wind  
Pomelo branches blowing into the alleys  
I walk hand in hand with her  
Go to the corridor under the slanting sun  
Return from my journey

## The Non-Stop Station

Drive alone but  
I heard that the sound of crickets at Luman Station has  
gradually shortened with the autumn  
I don't know what to call her, Luman  
Or, another more poetic name, Lu Maman  
However, the roaring train has not stopped  
She used to be the first station of Alishan Railway entering  
Zhuqi  
Now, in the quiet air of the earth  
She, the weeping green of Xiaojiabiyu attracts me  
What's her name?  
Seems like it's not that important anymore

Standing alone in front of the station  
The Japanese-style architecture filled with gentle wind,  
how many wastes are trying to get rid of the years?  
Static than the rhyme of autumn hoe  
Guide me, gradually integrate into the scene or the wasted  
time tunnel  
A non-holiday afternoon that didn't attract many tourists  
Even, the bride who is eager to take wedding photos  
There are three or two people who love to ride iron horses  
Stepping on the quaint footsteps, visit the back garden of  
Chiayi people  
Unexpectedly, Luman Hakka Culture Smoke House  
There is no hustle and bustle, only a moment of carefree  
surroundings are left in Fangshi

Loving the bamboo woven mud wall outside the flue-cured  
tobacco

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Hold your breath, quietly eavesdropping on its narration  
Tobacco leaves were bright when they were alive, but  
artificially yellowed old pages  
Withered and upside down, traces of smoke drift towards  
the end of autumn that records the past  
Nowadays, most of the smokehouses have been mixed with  
the ruins that the bats flew to, reflecting the  
The wheel of the times, how can we give up lightly?  
They told me that there used to be a lot of sika deer  
Unexpectedly, Luman is already the hometown of longan,  
lychee and citrus  
The Deer Man Elementary School Library has a sika deer  
installation, with the intention of  
Linking the moving lines from Lumachan, Zhuqi and  
Zhanghorliao Stations through Linfutong

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Sharæf  
Abdur  
Rashæd

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## The Year of the Poet X ~ January 2023

Shareef Abdur-Rasheed, AKA Zakir Flo was born and raised in Brooklyn, New York. His education includes Brooklyn College, Suffolk County Community College and Makkah, Saudi Arabia. He is a Veteran of the Viet Nam era, where in 1969 he reverted to his now reverently embraced Islamic Faith. He is very active in the Islamic community and beyond with his teachings, activism and his humanity.

Shareef's spiritual expression comes through the persona of "Zakir Flo" . Zakir is Arabic for "To remind". Never silent, Shareef Abdur-Rasheed is always dropping science, love, consciousness and signs of the time in rhyme.

Shareef is the Patriarch of the Abdur-Rasheed Family with 9 Children (6 Sons and 3 Daughters) and 41 Grandchildren (24 Boys and 17 Girls).

For more information about Shareef, visit his personal FaceBook Page at :

<https://www.facebook.com/shareef.abdurrasheed1>

<https://zakirflo.wordpress.com>

Iqbal,

Pakistan  
Masih man-child  
comes to mind  
courage beyond  
slave chained  
10 years old  
chained in a  
carpet factory  
escaped, captured  
escaped again  
some how  
man-child courage  
beyond belief  
dedicated to free  
others  
like great Tubman  
man-child freed  
3000 slaves  
became world  
renown  
raising massive  
interest  
12 years old  
assassinated.  
amazing  
man-child warrior  
Iqbal Masih

## Renewal

see the light in the east  
just breaking through  
distinct from the darkness  
in the rest of the sky

just think about the reason  
why  
days come and fly by

as do seasons

just think about the reason  
why

brand spanking new  
dropping morning dew  
part of the daily rebirth,  
renewal of our earth  
abode of our birth  
from where we came  
awaits our return  
light pierces through  
darkness dies  
like the reason why,  
truth busts the brains  
out of falsehood  
light is truth  
darkness is falsehood  
birds give praise,  
raise their voices  
give greetings to the new,

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breaks through the malaise  
noticed, appreciated by just  
a relative few who took the  
time to absorb and pause  
look in awe, appreciating the  
miracle they just saw  
remembering the one  
who raised and set the sun  
and like the birds,  
given praise only to that one (1)  
and only one

## Be's like that

thoughts pop  
in, out  
sit quiet in brain  
or brain to mouth  
speak about  
blurt it out  
what's that all about

mind over matter  
what's that suppose  
to be

folks don't listen  
folks don't see  
dem too busy  
to take heed  
pay attention to,  
the voice in our  
soul the alarm  
installed to keep  
us from harm  
only if we listen  
pay attention to  
whispers into  
the heart  
suggesting to depart  
from right

thoughts in our mind  
pop in and out  
like a thief in the night  
some wrong, some right

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some loose, some tight  
What's that about  
come to be unseen  
to heart, brain,  
soul control  
Devil on a roll  
got to get a mouth to  
soul resuscitation to  
revive the spiritual  
vibration  
prevents soul  
depravation  
listen, hear the whisperer  
whispering into your heart

BEWARE

Kimberly  
Burnham

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A brain health expert with a PhD in Integrative Medicine, Kimberly Burnham has lived in tropical Colombia; in

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Belgium during the Vietnam War; in Japan teaching businessmen English; in diverse international Toronto, Canada; and several places in the US. Now, she's in Spokane, WA with her wife, Elizabeth, two sets of twins (age 11 & 14) and three dogs. Her recent book, *Awakenings: Peace Dictionary, Language and the Mind, a Daily Brain Health Program* includes the word for peace in hundreds of languages. Her poetry weaves through 80+ volumes of *The Year of the Poet, Inspired by Gandhi, Women Building the World*, and *A Woman's Place in the Dictionary*. She is currently working on several ekphrastic writing projects. One is a novel, *Art Thief Cracks Healing Code for Parkinson's Disease* and the other is non-fiction, *Using Ekphrastic Fiction Writing and Poetry to Create Interest and Promote Artists, Writers, and Poets*.

<http://www.NerveWhisperer.Solutions>

<https://healthy-brain.medium.com/bears-at-the-window-of-climate-change-d1fb403eeaf3>

## Stolen Childhood

## The Year of the Poet X ~ January 2023

From my childhood I remember  
climbing the Eiffel Tower  
throwing corn and seeds to pigeons in London  
much like the children in Mary Poppins  
lucky charms and fritos  
a ski trip with friends  
my parents probably sacrificed to give me everything  
horseback riding to the top of a mountain  
strawberries and whipped cream waiting at the top  
I remember and recognize my privilege  
my childhood was not stolen  
I was not sold into slavery  
my parents were not despirately poor  
I am lucky

Blending War and Peace into Urdu

## The Year of the Poet X ~ January 2023

Sometimes languages blend  
so thoroughly a whole new tongue  
springs forth

In the 1500s Turko-Mongol warriors  
swept out of central Asia  
through Farsi-speaking regions  
into India

They recruited soldiers from all the conquered  
in camps one heard a cacophony  
Farsi where peace is called "ashtee"  
Hindi peace is "shanti" or  
a blending of Arabic "salaam" and Sanscrit "shanti"  
into "salamti"  
and Turkic which uses the word "amyr"  
to signify peace

Blending and convesing as they fought  
soon the soldiers  
spoke a single new language  
a unique product of three

Urdu it was called  
meaning "army" in Turkic  
now Urdu an official language  
of Pakistan  
where peace is called "sukoon"

a Sufi term for an elevated state of mind  
a combination of peace  
wisdom and contentment

### Om Shanti Peace

## The Year of the Poet X ~ January 2023

"Om shanti cánti śanti  
shánti shaanti shanti"  
peace in many languages

Sanskrit, the Rohingya people of Burma, and Bengali  
Caribbean Hindustani, Maithili and Nepali  
peace all over Southeast Asia

"Om santi" in Koch spoken in Bangladesh  
"santipap" in Thai Khmer and Laotian  
"śāntī" in Punjabi

"Shánti" with nature  
the green trees huffing out oxygen  
ecological "shaanti"

"Om shanti" or "aman" in Marwari  
"shānti" in Bhojpuri spoken in India  
"shānta" in Bengali

Peace with society  
"cánti" between human beings  
selectively seeing friends and neighbors everywhere

"Om salamti" in Hindi  
"shāntatā" in Gujarati spoken in India and Pakistan  
"shaamti" in Kannada or Kurumba

"Shanti" within a spiritual peace  
a sense of pride in actions  
riding the flow of emotions

"Om śāntātā" or "śāntī" in Marathi  
"shanti" in Telegu  
"sānti" in the Oriya of India

The Year of the Poet X ~ January 2023

Environmental peace  
encompassing them all  
food shelter connection

Elizabeth  
E.  
Castillo

The Year of the Poet X ~ January 2023



## The Year of the Poet X ~ January 2023

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

<https://free.facebook.com/ElizabethEsguerraCastillo>

#### Google Plus

<https://plus.google.com/u/0/+ElizabethCastillo>

## Masih, Symbol of Child Struggle

An innocent boy who was forced into slavery,  
A symbol for the struggle against child labor  
He inspired many to escape and be free  
Masih, a figure against children's struggles,  
His liberation and death was a phenomenon  
Sparked the rage of child laborers  
To regain their rights and protection.

## Courage to be True

Do you have to hide your true self?  
Make pretensions, be under disguise?  
To be noticed by others, do you have to lie?  
Look yourself in the mirror and ask yourself why?  
Has the world made a slave out of you  
That once you feel unappreciated,  
You succumb to being blue?

In reality, those who don a mask,  
Are the ones who don't know authentic happiness  
For out of the mundane things, their joy dwells.  
Living each day in their own make-believe world,  
Lost souls, restless hearts, crying for freedom  
To break free from the chains that bind  
And to have the courage to be true to mankind.

Clowns are sent to entertain the crowd,  
But beneath the thick layers of hues  
Can we say that their smiles are true?  
The funny comedian in the movies that we see  
In real life emerges a depressed soul once alone  
For behind the laughter, behind the cheer,  
We can't see their real selves, can't see the hidden fear.

True, happy people don't have to mask their true selves,  
For they don't seek validation or appreciation from others,  
Simply by being their own self, being honest to what they  
feel,  
Open doors of love and acceptance for those who truly care.

## The Phantom's Shadow

Through the dark night on a starless and pale moonlight  
He lurks from behind, nowhere to go to  
Just wandering the streets, hiding from the crowd  
His sullen face masked  
But beyond that scarred countenance is a dark past  
That continues to haunt him down.  
He may be aloof, be misunderstood by silly, shallow people  
Deep down he has a gentle heart  
Yet hardened by great blows he has yet to forget.

In each one of us is the phantom's shadow  
Longing for more than just empathy  
We struggle so much to find our niche in this judgemental  
world  
To be embraced by all despite our frailties, shortcomings and  
flaws.  
Why can't the world just leave him alone  
And erase the stigma of him being different from the rest, an  
outcast?  
Give him space to breathe, to live peacefully, have his share  
and prove his worth?

Through the dark alleys, there is where he hides  
Hoping his day would finally come and can break free from  
the chains  
Like any one of us all he wishes for is to find true happiness  
And all he's asking from strangers is a little kindness  
Everyone of us long to be accepted for who we are  
To fit in the crowd and not be left out  
How do we bring forth peace in this world  
When all we do is throw stones at each other instead of living  
harmoniously?

Joø  
Païrø

*The Year of the Poet X ~ January 2023*



## The Year of the Poet X ~ January 2023

Joseph L Paire' aka Joe DaVerbal Minddancer . . . is a quiet man, born in a time where civil liberties were a walk on thin ice. He's been a victim of his own shyness often sidelined in his own quest for love. He became the observer, charting life's path. Taking note of the why, people do what they do. His writings oft times strike a cord with the dormant strings of the reader. His pen the rosined bow drawn across the mind. He comes full-frontal or in the subtlest way, always expressing in a way that stimulate the senses.

[www.facebook.com/joe.minddancer](http://www.facebook.com/joe.minddancer)

## Worn Soles, Weave Carpets

Iqbal Masih was sold into the hold of child labor  
4 years old and molded by carpet slavers  
Beaten like the rugs his 12-hour days produced  
Can you imagine, or even fathom this extreme,  
done to our youth?  
All done to fulfill an older brother's dream.  
Pakistani weddings seem to be a thing

One rupee per day, to payback a loan of 600  
By the age of 10, Iqbal Masih had enough of it  
He escaped, and helped 3,000 more find freedom  
He spoke on the world stage never to be silenced

Assassinated at 12 years old  
Martyred, murdered, killed, laid still  
Yet still, his efforts remain strong  
Movies, and poems, reformed laws  
And there still seems to be a pause!

There still seems to be a cause worth dying for.  
A cause worth fighting for?  
Worn soles, weave carpets  
Iqbal Masih died trying to stop it!

## 2.0X Magnification

I can't see like I used too  
I get up close and personal for the detail work  
I'm without the personnel for the retail work  
When it comes (and not that often) I'll resale work

Right now, I can't see like I used too  
I got my AGFA Loupe adjusted to the max  
I'm handling tiny parts with the aid of some wax  
When you get right down to it  
(And as close as possible), might be cataracts

It can't be like it used too  
It's hard for me to view a tree like I used too  
with every fiber of my being, I'm clinging  
letting go of ill thoughts that I'm thinking  
wondering if I'm losing my hearing  
(Meanwhile back at clearing)

I'll concede to the age factor  
I refuse to believe that age doesn't matter  
I'll sport a monocle and a top hat, or  
Monopolize on the fact  
2.0x magnification I can see like that

## We Learn From A Tax Return

Is a tax bracket a racket,  
racketeering for the ratchet  
the facts I'm hearing seem to match it  
burn the poor, the rich go matchless  
the constant lying seems to be a catalyst  
it goes right over the heads of the (so called)  
capitalists.

Whose rut do you root through,  
When it's us that you sue  
We the people who pull the levers  
Are not the people whose taxes are shelters  
When truths are not self-evident  
And truth becomes irrelevant  
Embellish and little and to hell with it

Fraudulent forms take form of the norm  
Résumé's don't mean what they say  
Authors write fiction into facts  
Repeat it several times and it becomes just that

Audits only apply to the strugglers  
The law gives free reign to the smugglers  
Those on high, who claim they're loving you  
Wait until April 15<sup>th</sup>, then they'll smother you.

hülya  
n.  
gılmaz

The Year of the Poet X ~ January 2023



## The Year of the Poet X ~ January 2023

Professor Emerita, hülya n. yılmaz is a published author, literary translator, and Co-Chair and Director of Editing Services at Inner Child Press International. Her poetic work appeared in numerous anthologies of global endeavors and was presented at various literary events in the U.S. and abroad. In 2018, WIN honored yılmaz with an award of excellence. Since 2017, her two poems remain permanently installed in *Telepoem Booth* – a U.S.-wide poetic art exhibition. hülya finds it vital for everyone to seek a deeper sense of self, and writes creatively to attain 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>

## Assassinated

at the age of twelve  
for his courage to effectuate change  
and dedication to his campaign  
against child labor in Pakistan.

Not that child labor is anything to condone  
to begin with,  
his posthumous story then underlines  
the abusive nature of how this Pakistani boy  
was forced to “labour”.

Iqbal Masih,  
a legacy of the past, present and future . . .  
for, per the ILO’s 2022 estimate,  
world’s 22,000 child laborers  
are killed each year while they work.  
Who amongst us will raise their voice  
to bring a keen attention to this death toll,  
other than right here, right now . . .  
through a mere few lines?

I am as complacent as you,  
for my silence has not bothered to break as of yet.

Let us at least say his name!

Iqbal Masih

routines

## The Year of the Poet X ~ January 2023

i wake up to just another day  
and am soon on my way to work

a school bus waits at the curbside  
its hugs, ready for the bubbly children  
anxious parents, in orderly lines, are also there  
to see their babies off to their safety-ridden returns

i think back and reminisce in peace  
about my own child's schooling ease

...

children get born also  
in other parts of the world, of course!  
children are cherished also  
in other parts of the world, of course!  
children are loved also  
in other parts of the world, of course!

some, having to struggle to stay alive  
some, only allowed the choice to try,  
for death manages to find them  
when they are way too young

too many are too often left behind  
without a guardian's devoted, caring love  
and so, for the rest of their butchered lives  
they end up awaiting their pre-determined fate

the notoriously grim age-old reaper, after all,  
has for long committed itself to a lethal contract:  
to annihilate, together with all infamous psychopaths  
from in- and outside those precious little beings'  
unfortunate, doomed-at all cost-nations of birth

in those long-forgotten geographies

## The Year of the Poet X ~ January 2023

a school bus might, indeed, succeed  
in a repeat-rewind-repeat-appearance  
probably, in a so-called “neutral zone”  
or in a “no-dispute area”, for instance

such an outcome would, for sure, be a rare sight  
maybe even enough to make the evening news  
with a self-indulging, self-approbated pride  
but any soul-empty headline will be short-lived  
just like the precious little ones that were inside  
for, the moment the bus doors begin to open wide  
that supposedly-safe, supposedly-routine daily ride  
will start spitting out tiny corpses, bones on the side

\*This poem has first appeared in my *this and that . . . a hodgepodge of hūlya's poetry* (Inner Child Press International: January 2, 2019).

even nature mourns

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clouds tear up sighing  
children, no longer playful  
what did we create?

\*This HAIKU was first published in my *this and that* . . . (ibid).

The Year of the Poet X ~ January 2023

Teresa  
E.  
Gallion

The Year of the Poet X ~ January 2023



## The Year of the Poet X ~ January 2023

Teresa E. Gallion was born in Shreveport, Louisiana and moved to Illinois at the age of 15. She completed her undergraduate training at the University of Illinois Chicago and received her master's degree in Psychology from Bowling Green State University in Ohio. She retired from New Mexico state government in 2012.

She moved to New Mexico in 1987. While writing sporadically for many years, in 1998 she started reading her work in the local Albuquerque poetry community. She has been a featured reader at local coffee houses, bookstores, art galleries, museums, libraries, Outpost Performance Space, the Route 66 Festival in 2001 and the State of Oklahoma's Poetry Festival in Cheyenne, Oklahoma in 2004. She occasionally hosts an open mic.

Teresa's work is published in numerous Journals and anthologies. She has two CDs: *On the Wings of the Wind* and *Poems from Chasing Light*. She has published three books: *Walking Sacred Ground*, *Contemplation in the High Desert* and *Chasing Light*.

*Chasing Light* was a finalist in the 2013 New Mexico/Arizona Book Awards.

The surreal high desert landscape and her personal spiritual journey influence the writing of this Albuquerque poet. When she is not writing, she is committed to hiking the enchanted landscapes of New Mexico. You may preview her work at

**<http://bit.ly/1aIVPNq> or <http://bit.ly/13IMLGh>**

## Beloved Iqbal

Beautiful man child outside,  
great Spirit inside. Beloved Iqbal,  
ten floating on forty.

You had little time  
in the overall earth clock.  
But you had a major impact.

Destined by Spirit's hand,  
3000 may say your name as savior.  
The world will never forget

the legacy you left that lives on.  
The future will declare you  
a Master of the Universe of Love.

You passed through and no  
negative bullets will ever touch  
the Spirit of a beloved soul.

## Night Frost

Night frost brings  
the soothing balm  
of light and sound  
rippling pass camp.

Sleepy eyes fold  
so dreams may come  
and escort you  
to the secret garden.

Here you may sit in peace  
absorb the wisdom  
of violets, paintbrush and daisies.

You may bow in reverence  
to a mushroom's  
artistic expression.

Now feel the music  
of a wild blade of grass  
sing close to your legs.

You were born to taste beauty  
and hold space for the broken.  
Come hither and sleep with me.

## Sipping Silence

My tongue is sipping silence  
with an unquenchable thirst.  
My heart opens its gates  
to scream into that stillness  
of love etched in serenity.

I see the blue mountain of light  
glowing on the horizon.  
Spirit waits with open arms  
to lead me to the door  
where divine grace waits  
with everlasting patience.

I must live life with a clean heart  
to prepare for entry  
into the Sacred Kingdom.  
I want to kiss the Beloved's feet  
and receive the light giver's touch.

Ashok  
K.  
Bhargava

The Year of the Poet X ~ January 2023



## The Year of the Poet X ~ January 2023

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.

## Who Are We

*For Iqbal Masih*

Tender wrists  
Chained to looms  
Pull and tug  
Motifs, petals, floral patterns

Stained fingers and  
Knotted knuckles  
Simmer in unison  
Like rhythmic throbbing of the arteries

With a flick of wrist  
Each string creates  
Colourful layers of designs

Tamp, force, tap, loop  
Pull threads  
Hour after hour

Starved and cheated  
They give up  
Even dreams  
of freedom

Connected we are  
In the tapestry of life  
Weaving is illusion  
Life is a loom

\*A poet must tell the truth about who we are — even if it is ugly and become the spokesperson calling for the ultimate freedom—freedom from slavery.

## Blue with Waiting

A  
journey  
began  
the day  
we met.

A simple  
friendship  
kept getting  
complex.

You  
were gone  
quickly  
as you arrived.

Now I sit  
alone  
with memories  
of a journey  
in love.

I hoped  
It had lasted  
Longer  
Until a morning  
Blue with waiting  
We may never see again.

## Those Days

I am a child  
who walks by  
the banyan trees.  
It's roots hanging to  
connect with me.

The ruins of a nearby fort  
no one bothers to know  
its past  
chisels a curiosity in me  
to know its glorious days.

I play with my siblings  
underneath the guava tree  
by the mustard green fields  
eggplants, turnips and  
the cauliflower smiles.

Thin  
wiry women carry  
backbreaking loads of firewood and  
grass to feed milking buffaloes  
tied but unharmed.

I wake up from the deafening  
Calls on the loudspeakers  
for prayers and a  
cup of sweet chai  
made by my father.

Caroline  
'Ceri Naz'  
Nazareno  
Gabis

The Year of the Poet X ~ January 2023



## The Year of the Poet X ~ January 2023

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 19<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> 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/](https://apwriters.org/author/ceri_naz/)

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

## Masih Speaks Hope To Me

I am telling my child  
Every time I go to work,  
Even hours I couldn't cuddle her,  
I can hear her voice,  
The distance between her and me  
Is just close to my heart...  
There's so much Hope and Love everyday  
As she reminds me, the best days are coming.

Her future is in my mind,  
Facing the contagion like a martial law  
Reading the paper, sadness strikes me;  
Some mothers just leave their babies,  
Some children are working too early,  
Doing a living; forcing their fragile bodies  
To work, work and work;  
If I can do small things to remind  
Each mother to take care of their children  
At first I thought it's so difficult,  
But there's no room of getting ill  
Fervent prayers to you, young ones  
Risking to hot zones of laborious crown.

## Mudita

(your happiness is mine, too)

i can see that vibrant reflection  
of happiness inside you  
that makes me happy  
as you are;  
i can feel your joyous soul  
as it embraces my cold self  
somewhere along the way;  
it may not be as perfect  
as how you'd laugh or scream  
at the top of your lungs,  
it may not be as expensive  
how others treat you  
in a café or your favourite glamping site;  
but it makes my day lighter;  
the charm of sonder,  
melts my heart  
you bump me with smiles  
and i love just the way it pierces  
through my heart.

***Mudita*** is a Sanskrit word which means  
"taking delight in the happiness of other people"

**unboxed**

you were my dream,  
it was fulfilled;  
you completed the mazes,  
and all the puzzles  
of a mother-daughter's  
treasure maps;  
i love you so much  
beyond my emptiness.

.

Swapna  
Behera

The Year of the Poet X ~ January 2023



## The Year of the Poet X ~ January 2023

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, Kajahkstan, 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

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Web Site

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## Iqbal Masih; the carpet weaver turns a martyr

Masih the child laborer  
An activist of Muridke, Punjab  
At the age of ten  
He escaped his slavery  
Who stood for the rights of the child  
Received Reebok Human Rights Award;  
worlds children Prize for the rights of the child  
He was conscious that bonded labour was illegal in the  
Supreme court  
complained to his master which was never heard  
He spoke aloud the real-life pain of child labour in all  
forums  
He raised voice for millions of children  
suffering in Pakistan in dingy atmosphere  
His idol was Abraham Lincoln  
A brave and eloquent boy  
He was shot dead while cycling in their village  
by carpet mafia that killed slaves  
if they ran away from carpet factory  
A victim of carpet mafia  
A bullet can't kill a dream  
Children should have pens  
in their hands not tools  
The ten-year-old child ambassador  
Whose dream was to abolish slavery as Lincoln did

He saved the lives of three thousand children  
He was sold for less than seven dollars  
and was forced to work twelve hours and seven days  
He spread the message of a bold martyr  
Certainly, a bullet can't kill dreams

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Freedom is the birth right of a child  
Education is the right of a child  
Salute you dear Iqbal Masih  
You started a legacy  
Your death is a conspiracy  
But your voice echoes every forum of the globe  
My tribute to you dear .....

## Authentic ambiances

ambience of a heart  
speaks millions of languages  
without uttering an alphabet  
the emblems of silence dominate  
victory of the winsome smile

ambience of a soul  
feels the fragrances in and out  
the cavernous corner  
reverberates the voice

ambience of a body  
reflects a perineal stream  
luminous energy and wisdom  
five elements sing in tandem  
the melody of cosmic anthem

## New Year Sunrise in the Trolley

When the Sun rises in the trolley  
Red carrots and green peas  
Display all colours;  
Uncles and Laxmi Ammas  
From vegetables to bedsheets  
Ear rings and exchange of smiles  
Loss or profit  
Everything so familiar.

So closed to heart  
The trolley will move  
From this square to that  
As the needles of the clock  
Again, it will stop  
As a couple of sighs or that of spilled milk  
Some will fly as birds  
But in the casket will be splattered  
Brotherhood and exchange of emotions  
Colours will tickle in the forehead  
As vermilion  
Except black marketing  
All is well  
Stale vegetables, fake currency  
and credits are forbidden  
But for rest the trolley is open  
Because if the Sun rises in the trolley  
The New Year peeps in the town....

The Year of the Poet X ~ January 2023

Albert  
'Infinite'  
Carrasco

The Year of the Poet X ~ January 2023



## The Year of the Poet X ~ January 2023

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

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

## Iqbal Masih

At four years old I was walking alone along dark roads to make it to the factory, I know I should've been home in bed with mom running her fingers through the hair on my head, but I'm unwilling here instead of paying off debt owed by my family.

Why me? days turned into nights, nights turned to weeks, weeks turned to months and I still haven't paid 600 rupees.

I'm working for free. Sweat and tears keep my face wet, my feet ache, my hands are tired and i'm hungry, they haven't released me and the rest of us child laborers to eat yet.

Complaining doesn't go far, so I deal with mental and physical scars. Woe is him, woe is her, woe is me. We are juveniles being controlled by blood thirsty and monetarily greedy criminals.

We had no choices, our cries were seen but our screams for help were unheard, we were voiceless. Years passed and today is still like the past, torturous work. Please god show me the path.

I escaped, but they brought me back. I got a taste of freedom, now that I'm ten I'm going to escape again. I did. In two years i completed a four year education and used my wits to educate the world about child labor while at the same time i was freeing other children from their captures.

I am Iqbal Masih. in the hearts of many my name will be engraved, i will be praised, i was just twelve years old when i was murdered by those who had me enslaved.

## Equestrians

You can't earn the ghetto purple heart medal of honor, with out common valor, you cant come to the hood speaking proper when we use ebonic grammar, you won't survive the street life propaganda with out knowing the soda to eina to water measure for that death batter. i rode with the best of men, hood equestrians evilly plotting, steadily trotting trying to ride out of poverty. We rode.

Let me tell you how I'm earning my purple heart. The road was treacherous from the start, trials and tribulations we rode through them, some are now decapitated horsemen, stones mark the spot to where we lost them. Through our journey we lost many, from a posse to a few around me, we remained mounted while some mounts on horses are empty, the horses and the souls of riders now run freely.

I may now trot off into the sunset. But I can't , I can't leave our trail uncovered, the new equestrians will ride and learn painful lessons. So I ride back onto death grass, bushes of destruction, trees of misery, I rode back to the war, with my spoken word I speak what i saw, what's in store, those stones on the floor in a crucifix formation through the passage are not signs of sacred land, it's the resting spot of an equestrian. I'll save a dead man If one of them listens. That's when I receive my ghetto purple heart.

## Headless horsemen

I now levitate through the apocalyptic region as a reaper due to loosing my stallion while battling in the underworld's dominion, he was stuck in the heart with a speared pole, as I leaned over and decapitated my foe, he now rest as a caucus on the battle field of the lost, I vowed to hover forever in the realm of the infinite, the sun doesn't shine but the moon still glows amongst the shadows of freelance souls, it renders negative reflections. I hear yells and screams from down yonder on the eternal path of skeleton paved roads, as I get nearer the sounds become clearer, I see dark reapers awaiting at Armageddons gate for for new souls to appear, you hear the clinging of swords in celebration, I swing my sword with arbitration 1 2 3 4 negative reapers are now headless horsemen, now the souls of the lost kids that was screaming and yelling won't get stolen like mines was, I choose to stay in limbo, in the realm of the infinite, so my dying breeds souls rise up as spirits

Michelle  
Joan  
Barulich

The Year of the Poet X ~ January 2023



## The Year of the Poet X ~ January 2023

Michelle Joan Barulich was born in Honolulu, Hawaii on the island of Oahu. She started writing poetry and songs with her younger brother Paul. They have written many songs in their teen years. She is currently studying Alternative Medicine and would like to become a Homeopathic Doctor. Michelle loves all kinds of animals and birds; she does wild rehabilitation. She has also rescued rock pigeons that make great pets.

<https://www.facebook.com/michelle.barulich>

## God's People

I can see myself looking through the mirrored glass  
I can feel the pain with every breath  
Somebody says your life is down the street  
I turn around and I see  
Everything makes sense  
Now it connects with our spirit  
I can feel God's hand  
touching mine  
Through times, I have my highs and I get my share of lows  
I wonder if I'll ever make it  
Wishing I could follow in the saint's footsteps  
St. Jude, I pray to you  
You are the forgotten one  
And I had to say all my goodbye's  
So, I know you understand  
St. Anthony, you are the finder of lost things  
Help me find the good in everyone  
Help me find God  
St. Anthony, there are many times I think of you  
St. Mary The Mother of God  
Your eyes are full of love  
Teach me what it means  
Thanks for pulling me through  
And I dedicate the rosary to you  
Jesus, you are the best example of a man  
You are everything to everybody  
Guide me to be a part of you  
Jesus, I look up to you  
And with my burning heart  
I think of you  
And I pray, dedicate, and love you all  
God's people.

## Middle Ground

All I wanted was some time  
Some time, to sort things in my mind  
We were once young and free  
Didn't have to look back  
Now, that every day that approaches me  
I find myself lost  
Found out there is no middle ground  
Walking down the isolated road  
Finding myself choosing once again  
I hear my lover call  
We were once young and free  
but all I wanted was some time  
some time to make up my mind  
Finding myself standing upon the middle ground  
We were once young and free  
Didn't have to look back.

## Tears of Sincerity

. . . And tonight, we atone  
The undying dreams  
Bottled up inside of me  
There must be a way  
The false tears falling from my eyes  
Tears of sincerity with agony that cries  
oh, these are not false tears  
falling from my eyes  
That people tend to show  
Hearts of cold and then move on once again  
For all the things we stood for  
I pray the days won't ask for more  
Conquest is victory so they can say  
Desecrate the silence  
All to the breathing air  
Consecrate the violence  
Leading un no where  
The false tears you see  
Falling from my eyes  
Tears of sincerity with agony that cries  
oh, these are not false tears  
People tend to show, leading us to be something we don't  
know  
. . . And tonight, we atone  
the undying dreams  
oh, these are not false tears that you see  
Tears of sincerity with agony that cries . . .

Eliza  
Sęgięt

The Year of the Poet X ~ January 2023



## The Year of the Poet X ~ January 2023

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).

## Drops of Sweat

*In memory of Iqbal Masih*

It's easy to say:  
*work*. This word does not cost anything,  
but it compels you  
to take action.  
It changes the reality.

When beads of sweat  
start flowing from the forehead of a small,  
working child  
it should make the world realize  
that the child has the right to  
– enjoy life  
– be loved  
– count on being understood.

It's so easy to say:  
*play*. It does not cost anything,  
but then a child can do what they like and

– the world is more beautiful,  
– tiredness is replaced by a smile.

Joys during childhood  
colour one's future.

*Translated by Dorota Stepińska*

## Confessions

You only have evil in you.

Pure evil.

Remember

– she will never allow  
such treatment again.

Your hands will not reach her,  
words will not hurt her.

– *I did not want to.*

*It happened by accident.*

– Silence!

She is still healing *accidental* blows,  
and confessions of hate ring in the ears.

*Translated by Artur Komoter*

## Realness

To be like until now?  
For what?  
It is worth experiencing life more fully.

Discovery of talent within oneself –  
the beginning of creativity.

Not quantity, but quality  
guarantee the joy of existence.

Radium and polonium  
she discovered –  
a wife, mother  
– a woman with imagination.

It is not a delusion, but realness.  
Not mannequins and robots,  
but the mind allows  
to build the world.

*Translated by Artur Komoter*

William  
S.  
Peters Sr.

The Year of the Poet X ~ January 2023



## The Year of the Poet X ~ January 2023

Bill's writing career spans a period of 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](http://www.iaminnerchild.com)

Personal Web Site

[www.iamjustbill.com](http://www.iamjustbill.com)

## One of the many

*Honoring Iqbal Masih*

And they steal their youth  
Expecting wealth from their miseries

The sunshine is stolen  
And the flowers wilt daily

Some die,  
Some live with the pain  
None escape

## A simple love poem

It has been a while  
Since I have written  
A 'Love Poem'

It is not that  
I no longer live,  
Nor Love,  
Nor is it that  
I have no motivation ....

.....

It is simply that  
I can not find the words  
That do justice  
To the depths  
Of my abiding love  
For you

So,  
I simply ask of you  
To accept these feeble words  
As an earnest intent  
To convey to you  
That you are loved

## We are failing and falling

She caressed my dreams with hope  
Awakening my soul-filled expectations  
That the day would soon come  
When all men  
Would live from the heart

Is it that much to ask,  
She asked,  
That all will come to realize  
That we 'ALL' are a part of  
The same whole  
From the same mold  
Borne of the  
Same soul

We must open our eyes  
Before the passage passes  
Us by  
.....  
We must realize  
That these same eyes  
That see and expect to see discord  
Can also recognize  
The one accord  
Which governs us all

The call has been made,  
And is done so  
Every day  
For each of us  
To brace our authentic unity  
Found in the humanity

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Of each of us, we must  
Of we can surely trust  
That these same eyes  
Will witness our demise

We are failing and falling

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# The Butterfly Effect



"IS" in effect

January

2023

Featured Poets

~ \* ~

JuNe Barefield

Swayam Prashant

Willow Rose

Shabbirhusein K Jamnagerwalla

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June  
Barfield

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## The Year of the Poet X ~ January 2023

June Barefield is a budding ANARCHIST, military veteran, proud father of three. He's authored three collections of poetry and enjoys reading, the outdoors, mostly sunrises, his dogs, and he makes a delicious pot of rice and beans too!

## The City

She's loveliest about dusk  
Her's a life lived in defiance of nature  
Nurtured by way of ambition, deception and annihilation  
Mass consumption her function  
Sanctioned by the insane  
Complete with her soundproof walls and 64" flat television  
screens  
Her satellite towers and lending machines  
Her surveillance cameras and 7-11 dreams  
The city.

She knows not charity  
In the early evening when death rattles the spine  
When the crowds move elbow to asshole, compacted  
together, but apart  
Driven by loneliness  
Where the delusion is so strong that the grub worm takes on  
wings "believing" he can fly  
While the bright red gory empire of men has not meaning,  
aside from monetary gain  
Moments disappear  
Populace unaware  
The city.

Crowds of human beings teamed together on the pavement  
like we'll dressed mimes  
The minds of men race and dance identifying themselves  
with her gorgeous annihilation, and created whim  
Right around nightfall the Crows begin to boast  
The Raven cackles with a gigantic grin

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Tiny robins swoop down to find cover  
Singing out as the sun  
dips under Returning her(the city) back to the streets  
And only the streets know  
The city.

The death racket begins to end with a spontaneous human  
combustion  
A dream flickering out and dying in her ghastly brilliance  
A continuous performance daily, from b4 dawn til dusk, and  
beyond, with no intermission  
The city in all of her loveliness pants with that 5 o'clock  
sweat from the tops of skyscrapers, in a corrugated sky  
choking out the light  
Her ugly so lovely right around dusk  
Plan your escape you must, from  
The city.

## Unhappy Savage

Last night I killed a cop  
Dropped him at the corner of 29th & fuck the police lane  
Brained the brainwashed, maniacal lil piglet  
Hit him in his face with them hollow point tidbits  
Turned what mind he had into juicy, black partisan, niblets  
The BIG Bad Wolf in the blue suit now just like me & You  
Unhappy  
a savage.  
Had him holding his little dick, hollering, try'na cover up as  
he squealed  
I wonder if he ever wondered how it feels on the opposite  
end of the steel  
I wonder if his mother can recover, but some hurt just never  
heals  
I left a note on his throat as he choked back his life  
It read "an eYe 4 an eYe", then I shot him in his right cheek  
It turned.  
The other cheek.  
It turned.  
Head bounced off the concrete.  
In the distance the battle cry rang out as I made my retreat...

"NO JUSTICE-NO PEACE!" "NO JUSTICE-NO PEACE!"  
"NO JUSTICE- NO PEACE!"

Can you feel my heartbeat?

## A Time to Kill

Something about a city just makes you want to kill  
Something about those men in masks and blue suits  
with shiny buttons in combat boots, makes you want to kill

Something about my very existence makes me want to kill  
My varied existence, the very reason that they kill

Something about a skin too dark, a tongue too tangled,  
features too foreign  
Something about public lavatories and toll booths, fire  
engines and police sirens  
always racing down the avenues, makes you want to kill

Something about boredom and fear and strife that's painted  
on all the faces  
chained to buses and jobs and wages and laws like slaves in  
cages, makes you want to kill

Something about a pie faced Negro holding up protest sign  
scribbling's with the women  
His scenario made only scenery for his surroundings, barely  
conscious of his condition  
flabby and weak, underneath the flag of imperialist elites,  
shivering like prostitutes in the streets, hollering out, "I  
CAN'T BREATHE, I CAN'T BREATHE!", makes you want  
to kill

Something about the drum that beats inside the vacant loft  
of too many souls  
Something about the sun that melts anger and harassment  
into murder  
Something about those who integrate to separate that seems  
desperate and temperate

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Something about those who emigrate to be overseen by dark  
angels spinning like tops  
controlled by evil princes, makes you want to kill

**Something about my very existence insisting that I kill**  
**My varied existence**  
**The very reason that they kill**

Peace be still!!  
My meditation  
Now is not the time  
Ever aware that there is a time  
A time 2 kill.

Swayam  
Prashant

The Year of the Poet X ~ January 2023



## The Year of the Poet X ~ January 2023

Swayam Prashant (pen-name of Dr. Prashanta Kumar Sahoo) was born in the undivided Cuttack district, Odisha. He was formerly an Associate Professor of English at Sarupathar College, Assam, India. He has written six books and two booklets. They are : Evaluation of Textbooks in the Teaching of English ; Values in Life ; Knowledge Tree (miscellaneous prose writings); Haiku from the Garden of My Own (poetry); Live Like a Man (poetry); Premras Amrit (poetry in Assamese); Virgin Land Impregnated (a thematic study of Canadian folk songs); and Joy of Love (a unique booklet of love poems).

Email ID : [swayam.prashant2001@gmail.com](mailto:swayam.prashant2001@gmail.com)

## Every Man Is a Metaphor

Every man is a metaphor  
and must be so;  
he is a metaphor of struggles  
and winnings of his life;  
he is a warrior in his own battlefield;  
he is his own opponent  
but he must conquer him in order to win;  
he must be a STONG metaphor for himself.  
Do not wait to see a metaphor in somebody to inspire you.  
Be your own metaphor and win the world.

## Mother

When the word mother is uttered  
The whole universe listens to it attentively  
The word 'Mother' is even greater than 'Aum'\*  
In whose heart the entire Creation hides  
She gives everything without any hesitation  
But never wants anything in return;  
The whole cosmos in the form of a child,  
O Mother,  
Bows at your lotus-feet !

*\*The seed of all mantras in Hinduism. It represents the Creator.*

## Homecoming

That is the place from where I had begun

Entirely naked and in complete silence

With only a drop of light.

I have travelled throughout the cosmos

Met words, sounds, voices, noises, and colours

Tried to befriend them all with many hostile though

But have still carried on

And it's time to return to the nest.

That is the place to which I shall return

Again entirely naked and in complete silence

Only as a drop of light.

Willow  
Rose

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## The Year of the Poet X ~ January 2023

Willow Rose is a peripheral visionary who believes in the power of well-chosen words, the importance of mindful living and that healing and redemption are possible for all beings. After dropping out of high school in the ninth grade, Willow became a single mother and struggled to make a living with no education. Determined that her daughter should have a better life, she obtained her G.ED and began college where she graduated at the head of her class with a Bachelor's Degree in English Literature and the fervent desire to begin teaching.

Using her experience as a drop out, she went on to help others struggling to complete their educations by teaching G.E.D classes, Adult Basic Education classes, and an innovative program called Even Start with students ranging in age from 18 to 56. She also substituted in various middle schools and high schools, once finding herself teaching at the same school she had been kicked out of so many years ago!

She is now a certified Mindfulness Mentor and believes mindfulness and meditation can transform humanity and heal the planet. She has been writing poetry all her life.

## Virginia Woolf Cooks Dinner for Her Husband

She gazed through the open door,  
distracted for a moment by the sunlit river,  
A spangled snood holding back the gray.  
A stray dust mote captured and turned to gold, how it  
blazed!  
So bright, so brief,  
caught in the rays of the setting sun.

How Virginia loved this cottage!  
A cheery kitchen, her vegetable garden out back,  
the flamenco dance of color from her fragrant flowers.  
Passersby would point-  
those who knew  
what she was known for,  
what she grew best...  
Never mentioning her mismatched shoes, torn stockings,  
buttons missed,  
her haunted eyes, lids dark and heavy with her need to rest.

The water on its second boil;  
Virginia Woolf bustles about,  
choosing six carrots still clumped with clots of earth and  
five smooth potatoes.  
Rinsing and slicing; the onion and garlic mingled, bleeding  
a pungent essence already wafting from her hands.

Just a woman preparing a dinner she will not eat...  
An aromatic kitchen and fresh from-the-garden stew.  
What a scene of domestic bliss  
for a husband to walk into.  
Hanging her old apron on its hook, she smooths the folds

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of her skirt and bends down,  
picks up a stray piece of straw  
as if it matters.

Moments later, clad in her favorite shabby cloak,  
she blends into the dusk  
cool and grey.  
A ferryman passes,  
she has Charon's fare,  
and takes her first steps into the Thames; feeling the water  
swirling, mud sucking at the soles of her shoes.  
*Or souls*, she thinks with a smile.  
The shore is distant now.  
The chill pushes her breath out  
with one bony hand.

Too late to turn back.  
Weighed down by everything and nothing, she slips away,  
silent as scent,  
pockets full of heavy stones  
large and smooth and rounded  
as the potatoes simmering slowly,  
in the stew left behind.  
In the fragrant, orderly and now dark  
empty kitchen.

## The Guardian of the Northern Lights

Secret

was the humble dwelling  
and secret would it stay  
the night was black as Charon's soul  
when he brought me to this place  
where he boarded up the windows  
lest I should see his face  
a coarser voice I'd never heard  
though seldom did he speak  
but his touch was always gentle  
and his body kept me warm  
in that hidden place of endless night  
in the Inuit's frozen land  
until one night without a word  
he took me by the hand  
one shining key he chose  
it had caught my eye before  
and with an incantation  
the key unlocked the door.

The sky wore a shawl of emeralds  
they blazed a shimmering green  
a diamond diadem of stars  
filled up the in-between  
and as the dawn grew golden  
somehow I understood  
six months of light were man's to rule  
but when the days turned cold  
the Guardian of the Northern Lights  
returned the green and gold.

Now when the days get longer  
and the nights grow warm and mild  
the emeralds and diamonds  
are baubles for my child.

## White Snow, Red Blood

An early dusk, a light dusting of snow,  
visibility is good, the moon golden and low.  
The ranchers are pacing in Italian leather boots,  
warm fur-lined parkas and their Hummers locked tight,  
They are such daring sportsmen to take on the night !

They recheck their rifles, squint through their scopes,  
take to the air courtesy of the Dupont Chemicals CEO,  
blades shearing sharp enough to slit the night's throat  
rifles ready, senses sharp...  
"Today I saw some really big tracks, the pilot yelled back,  
it might even be the leader of the pack!"  
Conversation is low, and then, down below,  
a flash of gray, a sharp crack,  
white snow, red blood bleeding  
from the leader of the pack.

Hours later, flushed and proud,  
they raise their glasses in a toast  
to the soft, gray fur by the fireplace.  
Red blood on the snow doesn't bother this bunch,  
as they discuss where to take the mayor for lunch.

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Shabbirhusain  
K  
Jamnagerwalla

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## The Year of the Poet X ~ January 2023

The 68 years old Tanzanian Poet Shabbirhusein K Jamnagerwalla, residing in Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania has been writing poetry for the past 50 years publishing in School and Social Magazines and his extraordinary poems reflect realistic life and positiveness in cultural, social circles, peace, conflicts, poverty, romance and behavior.

Motivational Strips & India's Gujarat Sahitya Academy honored him for literary excellence in par with global literary standards during India's 74th and 75th Independence Celebrations and is one of the Recipients of Global Literary Honors 2021-2022 and honored with Rabindranath Tagore Memoriam Award.

He has co-authored in plenty of Poetry Anthologies including Chaotic Times, World Poetry Tree, Kinsley Publications, The Poet Magazine, Williwash, Filipino-My Pen & Soul, Be Literate, etc.

## Pedaling On

For ages and ages gone by  
The bicycle has been a powerful force  
That has broken all barriers of keeping fit  
Sheer powerful thrusts from my legs  
Keeps my body fit at all times  
Keeping my mind parameters in proper conditions  
And a solid healthy environment prevails  
With the huffs and puffs  
Oh ye ye here goes my bicycle  
In full force  
With the wind gushing past pleasantly!

Oh my dear bicycle,  
You are so simple yet sturdy  
When we decorate you lovingly  
You blush and shine so attractively  
Oh my dear bicycle  
I really become annoyed  
When your tyre bursts or the chain dislocates  
Or the brakes fall apart  
Yet I attend you with my surgical tools  
Keeping your tyres with full pressure  
And your delicate body parts in order  
And then only can you move ahead faster.

And oh my adorable bicycle  
I keep you fully oiled and cleaned at all times  
Rubbing you to keep the dust off you  
For only then can you remain satisfied  
And perform extraordinarily  
With my legs on your pedals  
Moving swiftly through the twisting roads  
And keep me happy and healthy at all times!  
Oh! My bicycle let's pedal on through our lives!

## From My Cell Window

Peeping through a broken window  
Sat I on a low and hard wooden bed  
Disgruntled beyond any words with a life full of woes  
Handicapped of any luxuries or happiness  
This prison cell was not of my futuristic dreams  
A crime punishment was not of my making  
A sentence not deriving from my guilt  
Surely the barren cells floor is not fair justice for me  
For the passionate and adorable person that I am  
A humble and patriotic son of this country  
Sentenced for life for a manslaughter that I did not commit  
And all these things reflect upon me  
As I peep out of my bare shell  
Through the broken windows of my cell.

The tears trickle down my face  
Trying to pick up the broken pieces of my life  
A lively and lovely family forever gone away from my life  
My wife living in a hellish quagmire  
Trying to make amends with a handful of pennies  
To clothe and nourish my pretty princess  
For whom I had plenty of dreams  
Yet alas for now  
Memories only remain  
As I sit on the barren floors of my discolored cell  
Lonely and unkempt  
And I cry in anguish  
Over and over again  
As I peep aghast and devastated  
Trying to keep sanity alive  
And all these things confuse me more  
While peeping through the broken window.

## My Dancing Clock

There is this old alarm clock of mine  
It is so stylish and so unique  
Mostly it lies beside my old comfortable bed on a side table  
Most of the time it is lying idle ticking away  
Like the thudding of one's heart  
Having a gloomy and sad face  
Yet during the early dawn of the day  
It comes to life  
It will shake and rattle  
And dance with glee  
With the soft music beckoning  
And I wake up from my slumber  
Angry and bewildered  
Blinking my eyes and scratching my hair  
Oh why does this silly instrument have to wake me up so  
early  
And I bang my hand upon the stop button  
Again and again till it stops dancing and shouting  
And I watch in awe and pity  
At the curved and sexy angles produced from it  
Over the distance of the years  
And patting it so fondly and lovingly now  
I kiss it repeatedly  
And snuggle it into my bosom  
And I escape into the comforts of my dreams  
Knowing very well that this adorable discolored clock  
Has been dancing for me  
For such a long appeasing period  
Without the doctors opening it for repairs  
And without any renovations made to it  
And all the worthy while  
It has been giving me the correct times at all times!

The Year of the Poet X ~ January 2023

# Remembering

our fallen soldiers of verse



*Janet Perkins Caldwell*

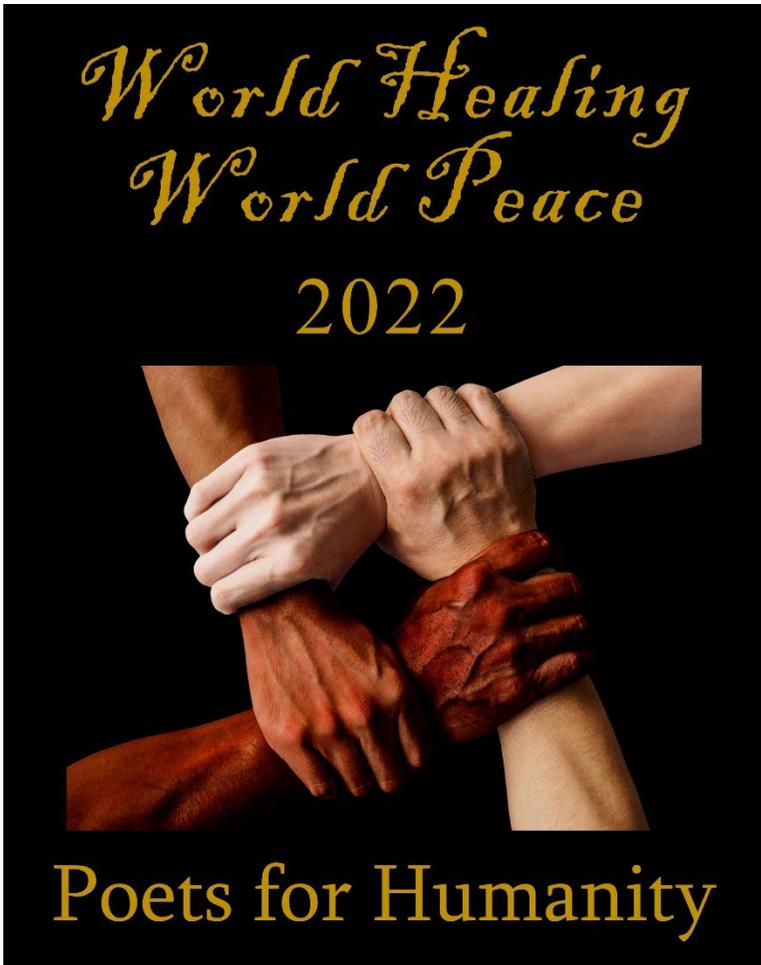
February 14, 1959 ~ September 20, 2016

*Alan W. Jankowski*

16 March 1961 ~ 10 March 2017

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[www.worldhealingworldpeacefoundation.org](http://www.worldhealingworldpeacefoundation.org)

Inner Child Press

# News

Poetry Posse Members

We are so excited to share and announce a few of the current books, as well as the new and upcoming books of some of our Poetry Posse authors.

On the following pages we present to you ...

*Alicja Maria Kuberska*

*Jackie Davis Allen*

*Gail Weston Shazor*

*hülya n. yılmaz*

*Nizar Sartawi*

*Elizabeth E. Castillo*

*Faleeha Hassan*

*Fahredin Shehu*

*Kimberly Burnham*

*Caroline 'Ceri' Nazareno*

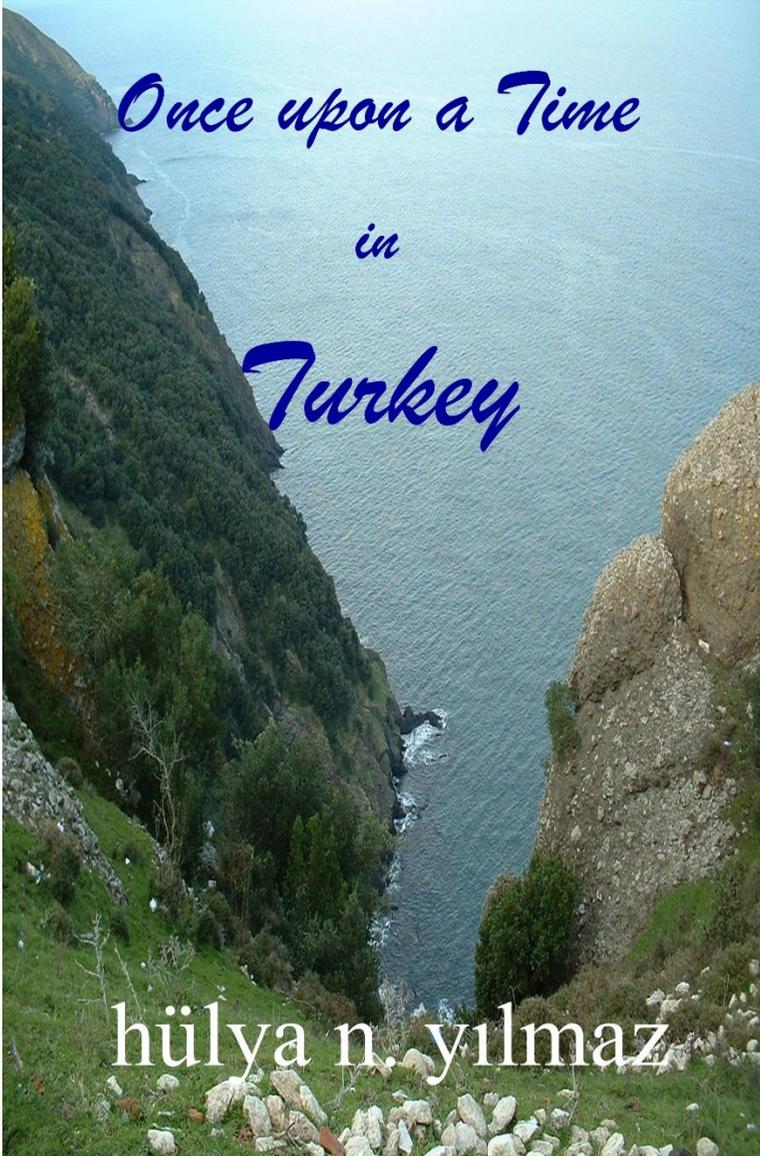
*Eliza Segiet*

*Teresa E. Gallion*

*William S. Peters, Sr.*

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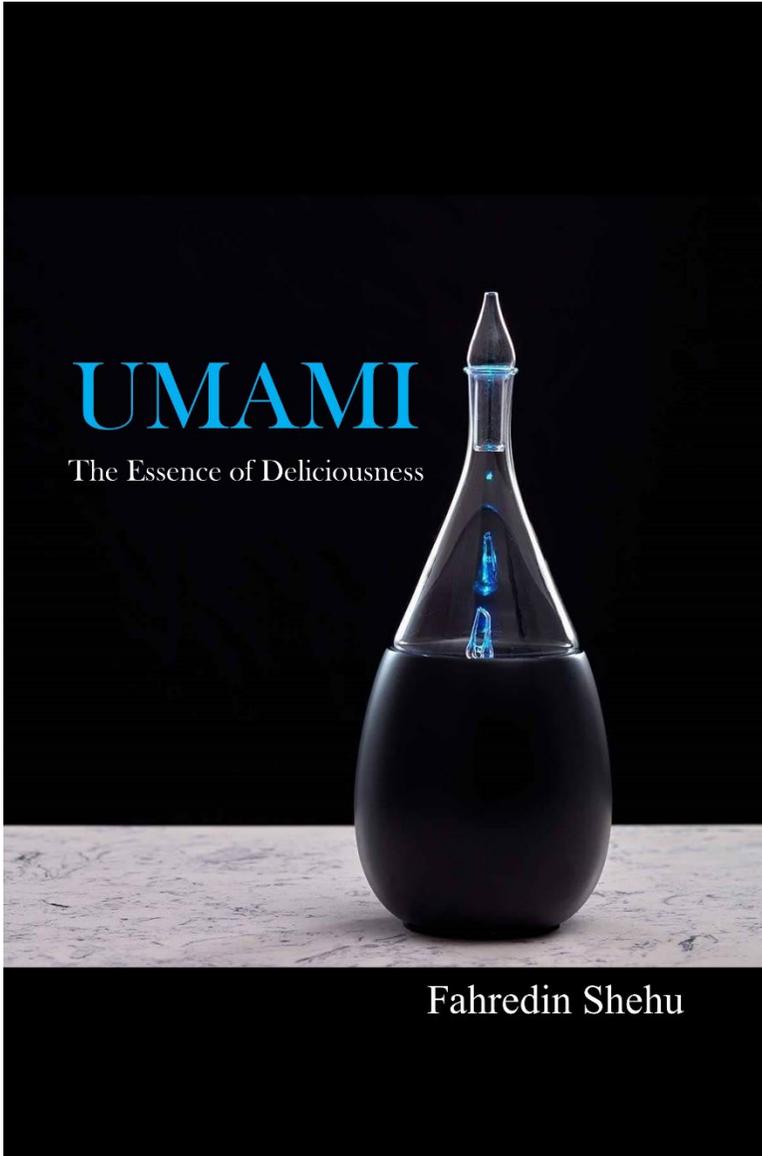
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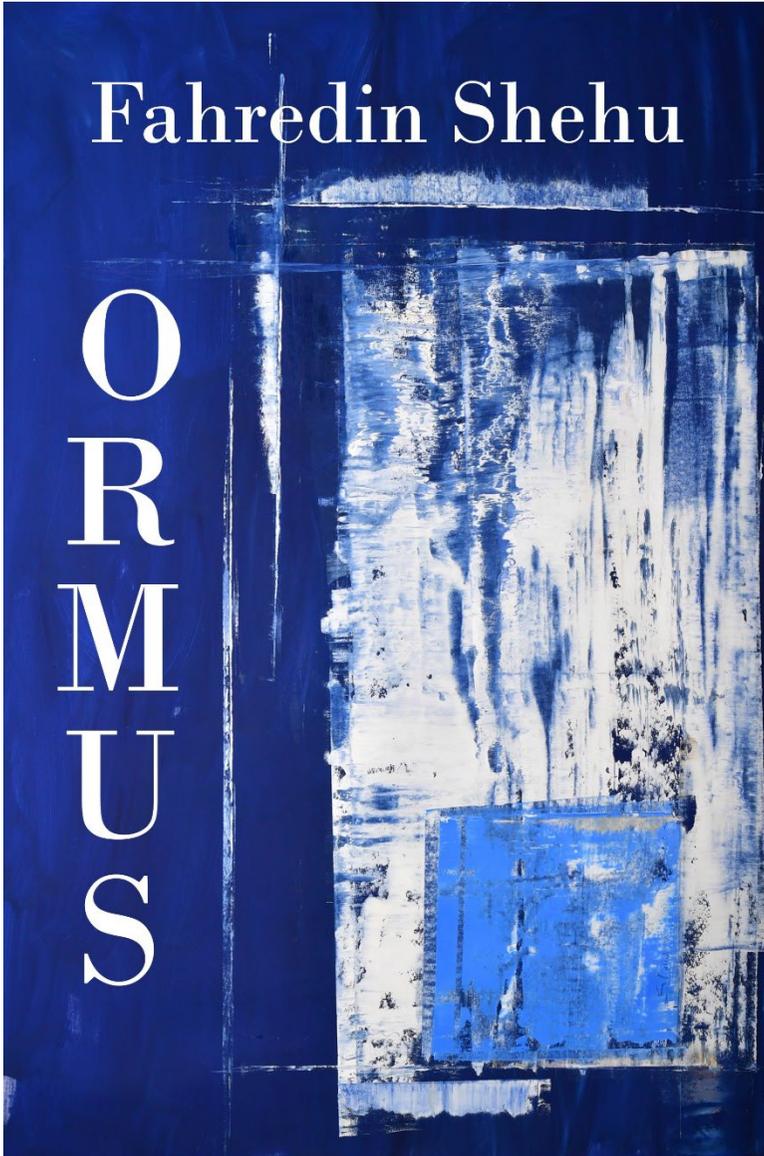
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# *Ahead of My Time*

*... from the Streets to the Stages*



Albert *'Infinite'* Carrasco

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Eliza Segiet

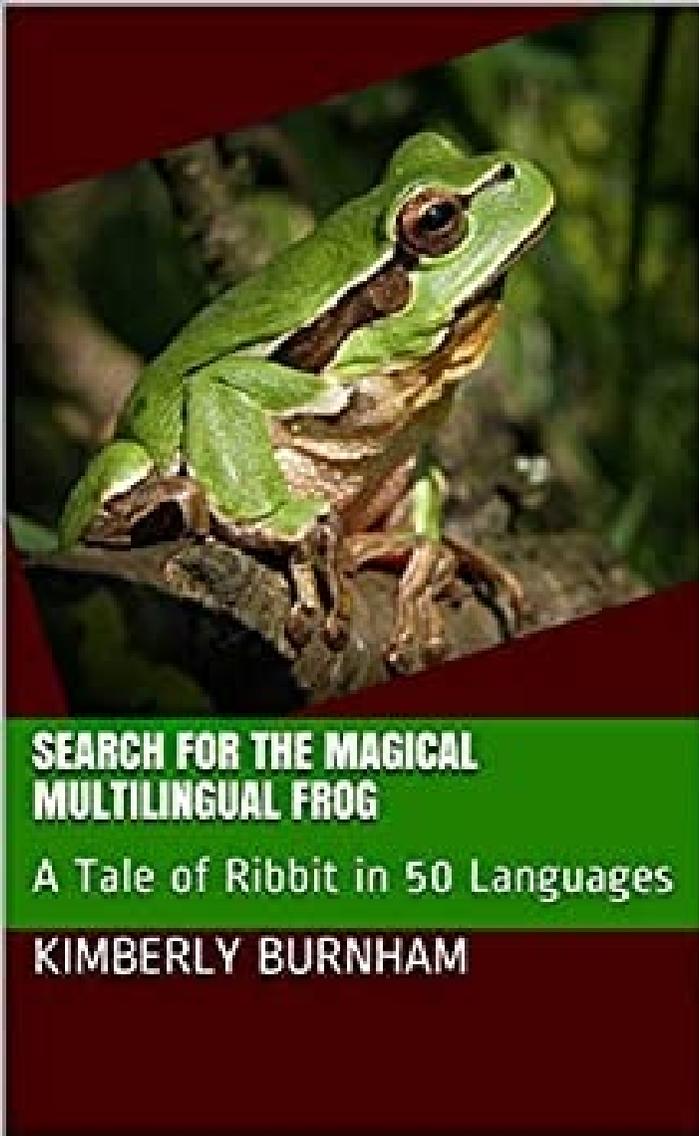


To Be More

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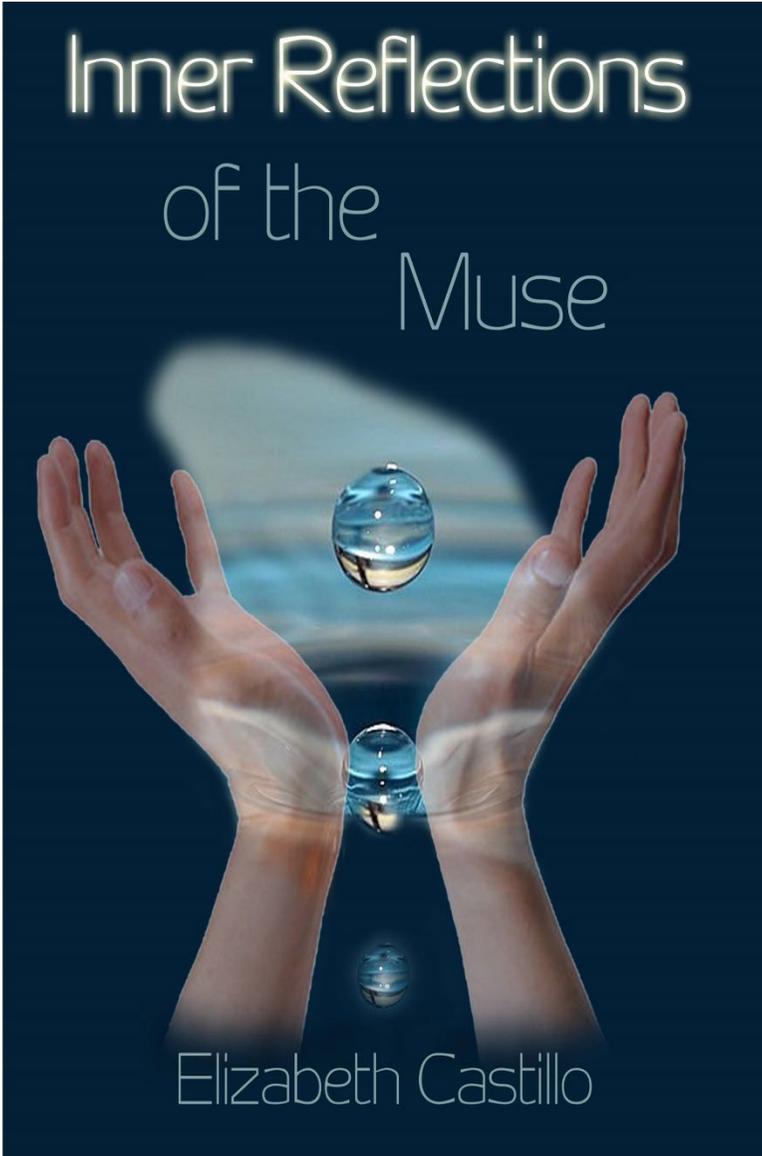
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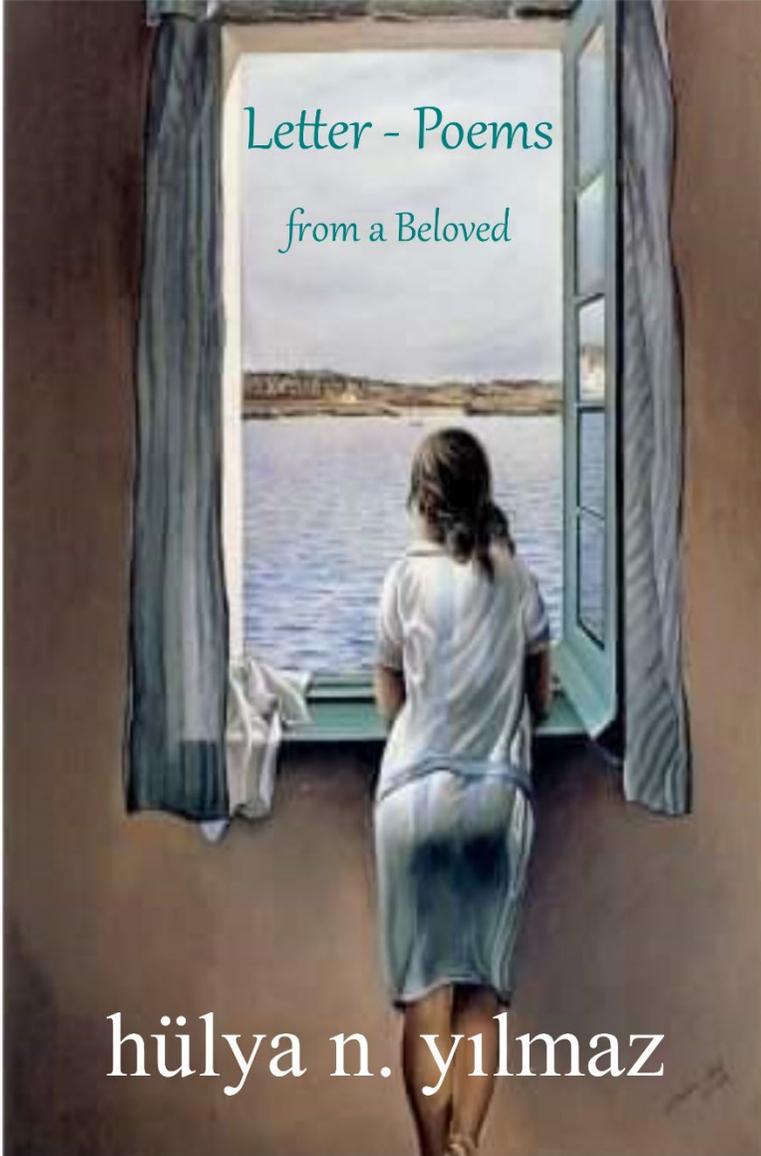
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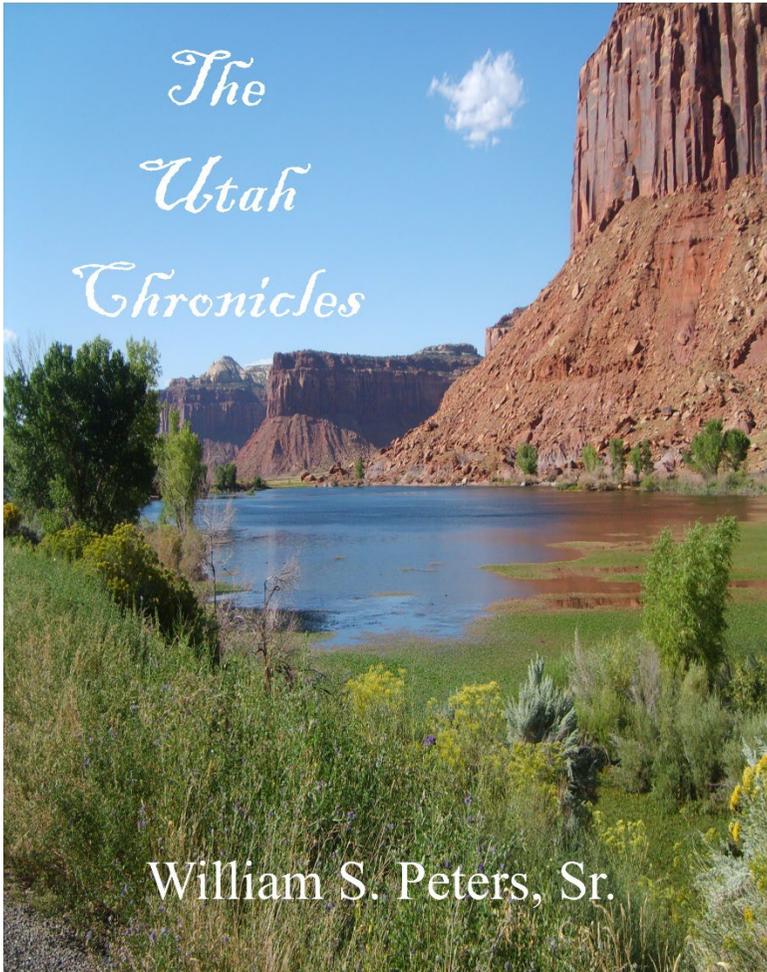
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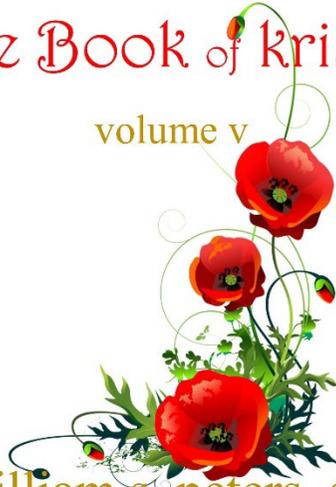
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volume v

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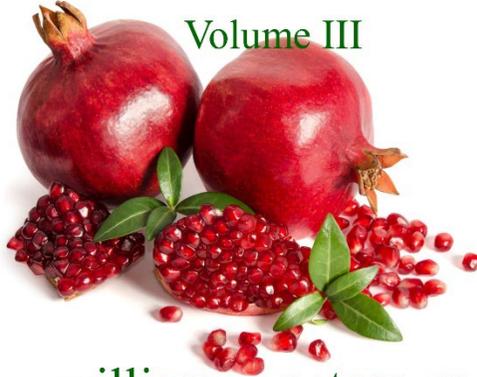
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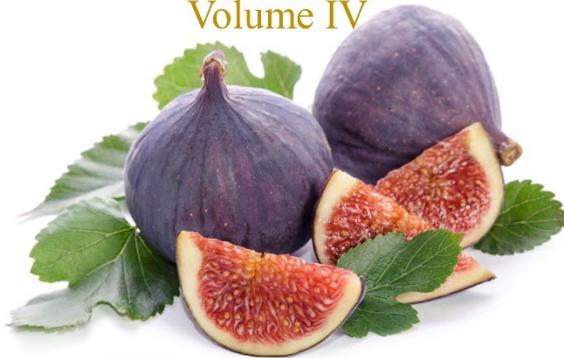
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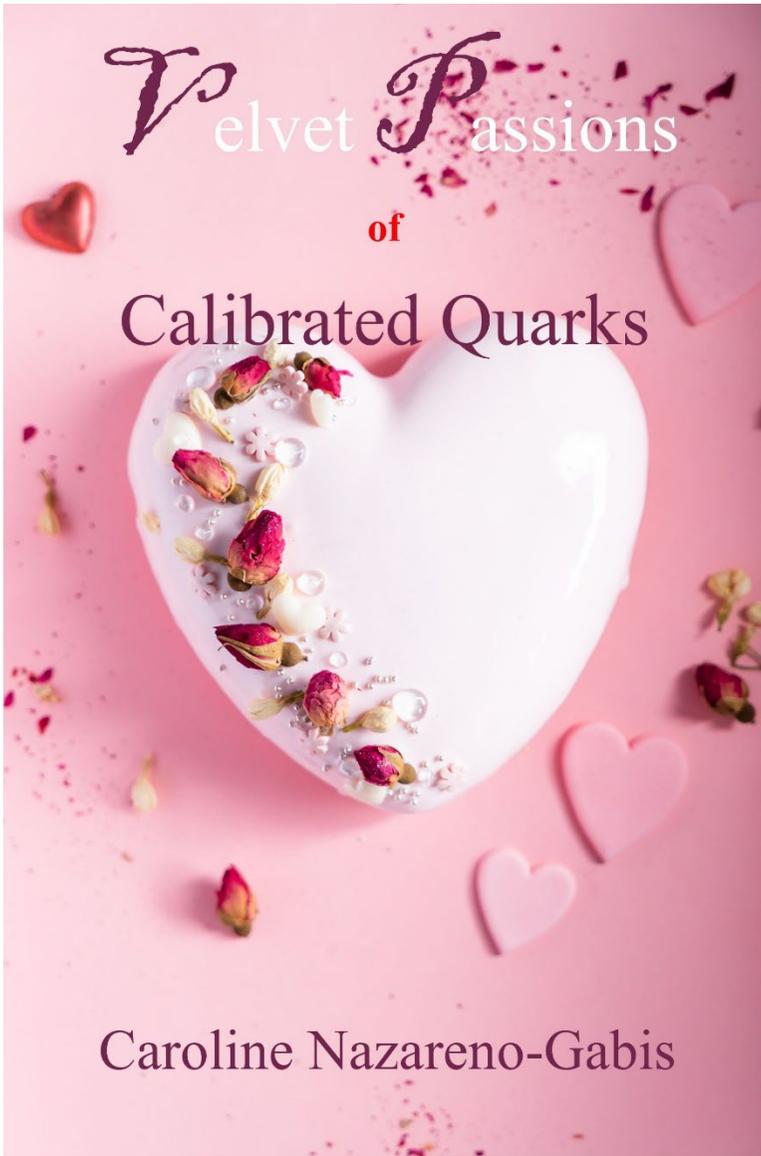


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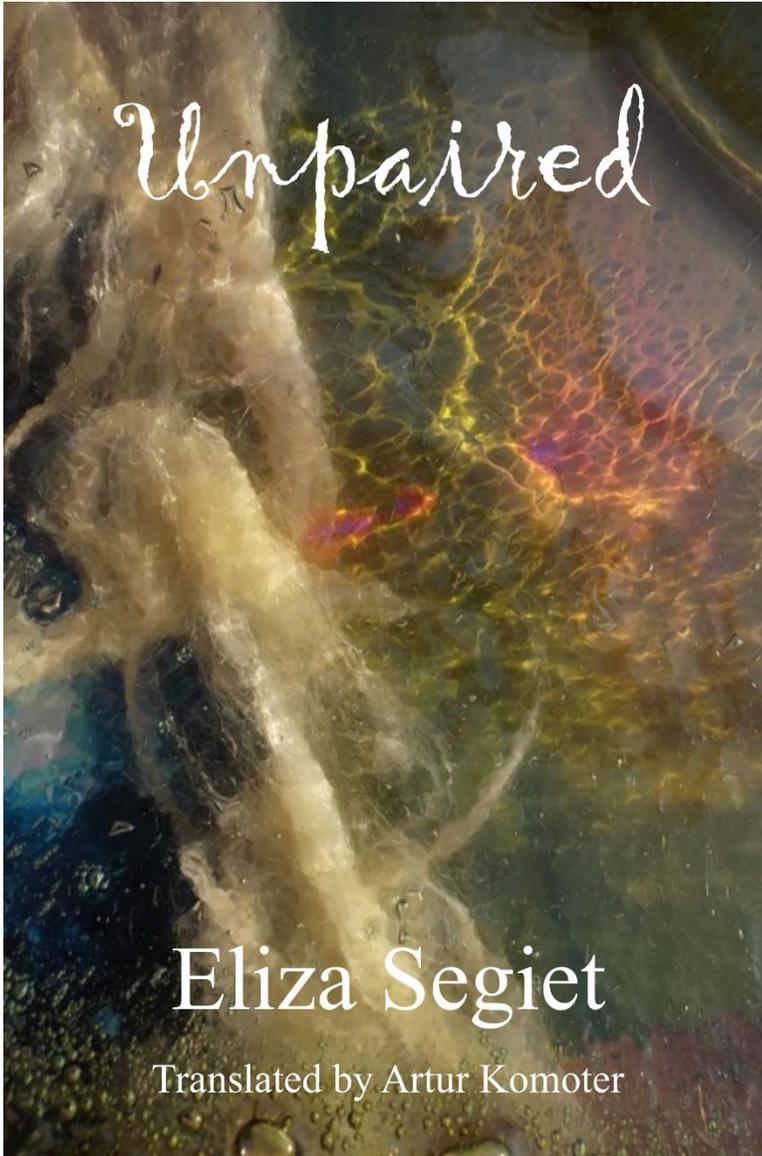
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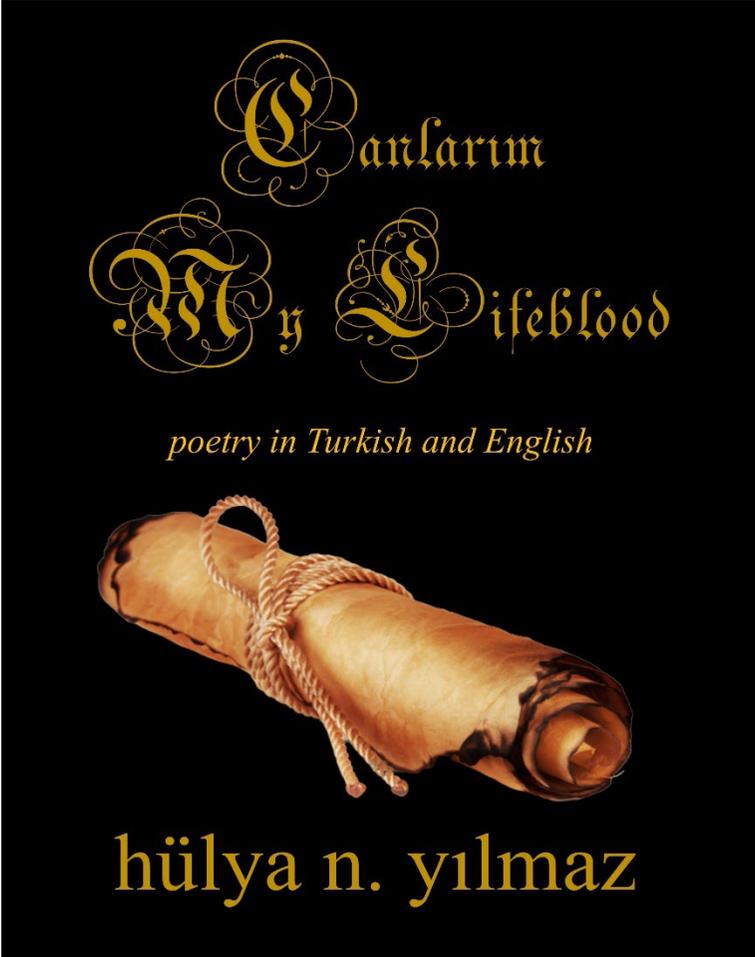
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# Butterfly's Voice



Faleeha Hassan

Translated by William M. Hutchins

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# No Illusions

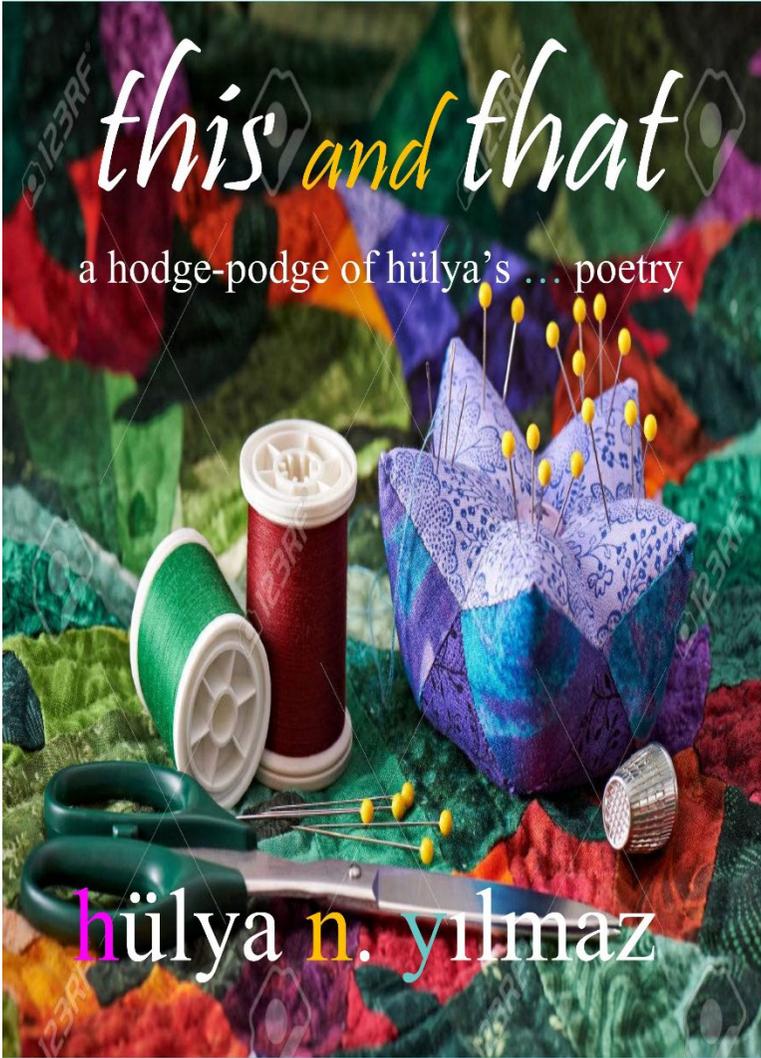
*Through the Looking Glass*



Jackie Davis Allen

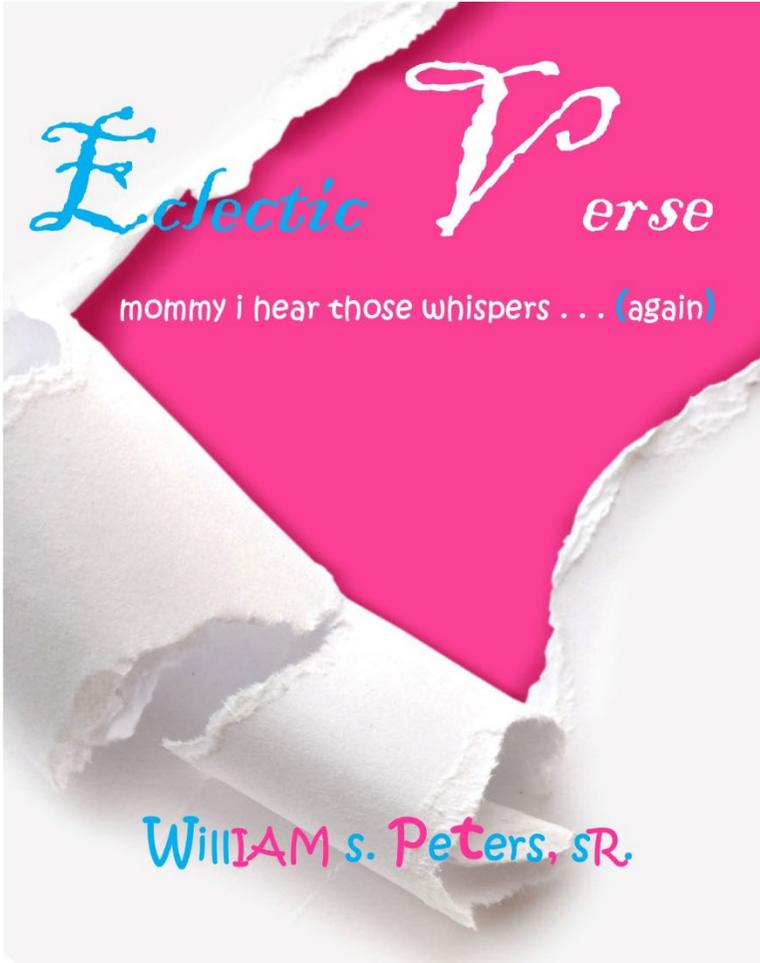
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# HERENOW



FAHREDIN SHEHU

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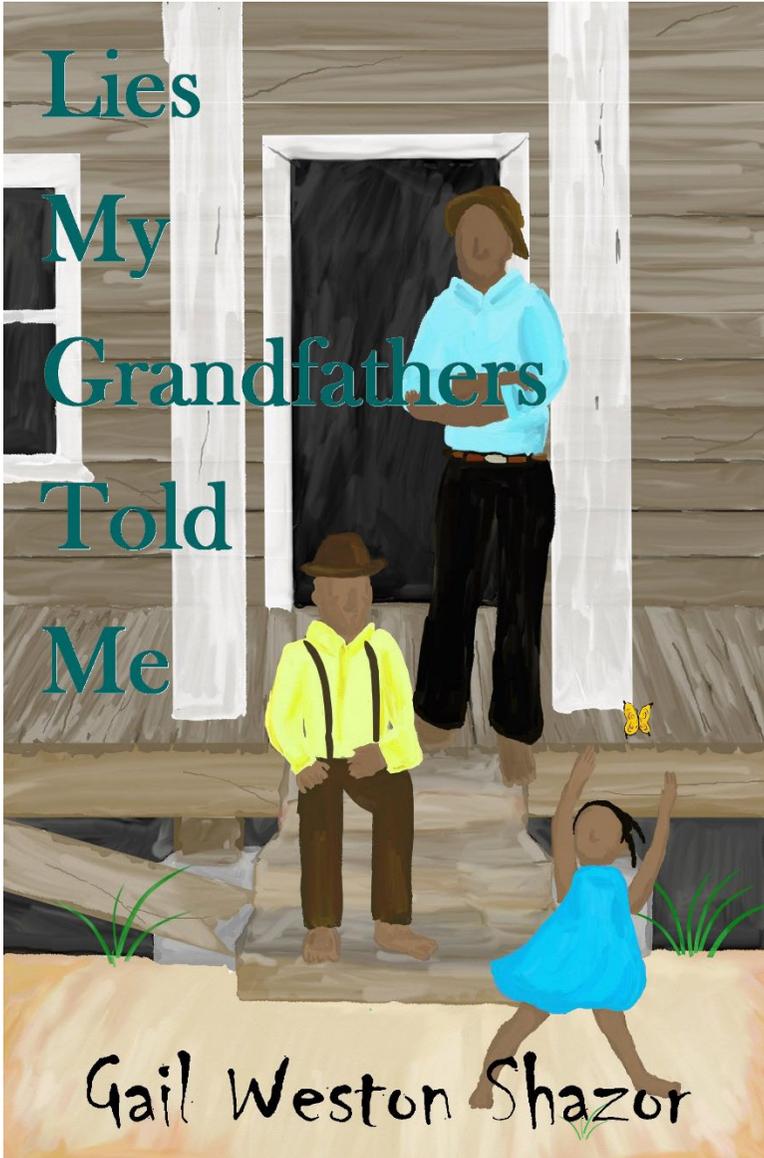
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# Afflame

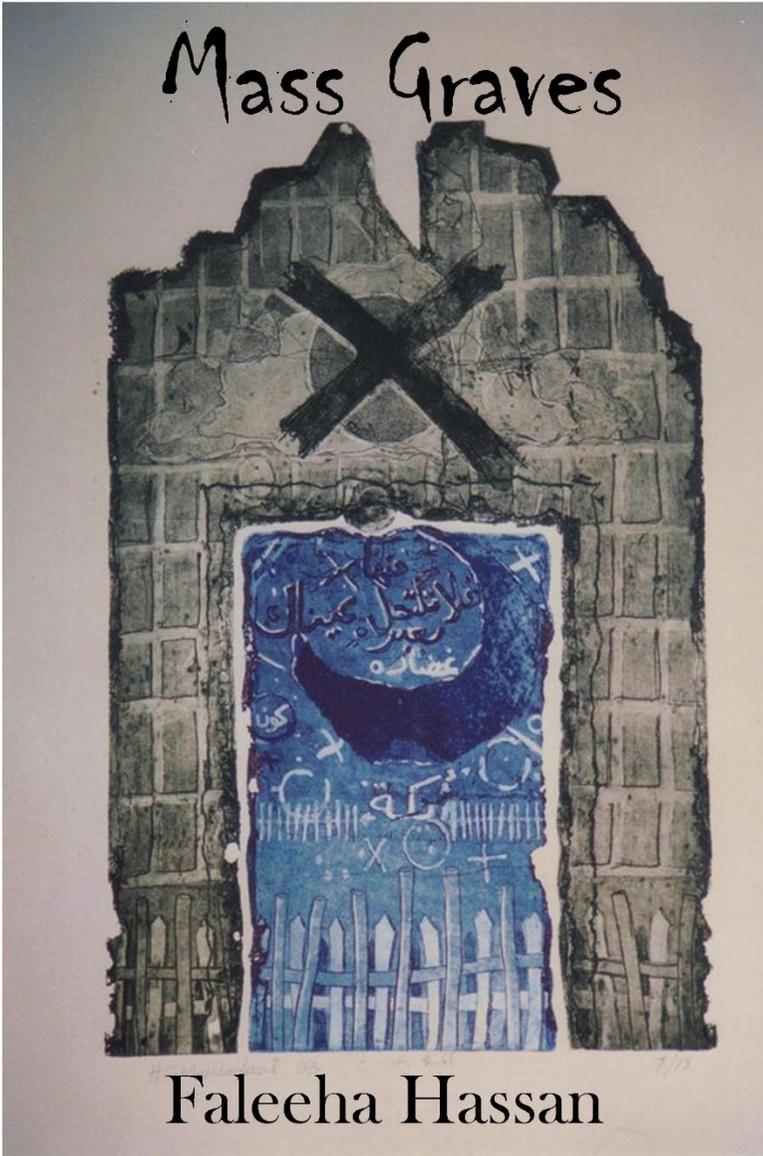


*Memoirs in Verse*

**hülya n. yılmaz**

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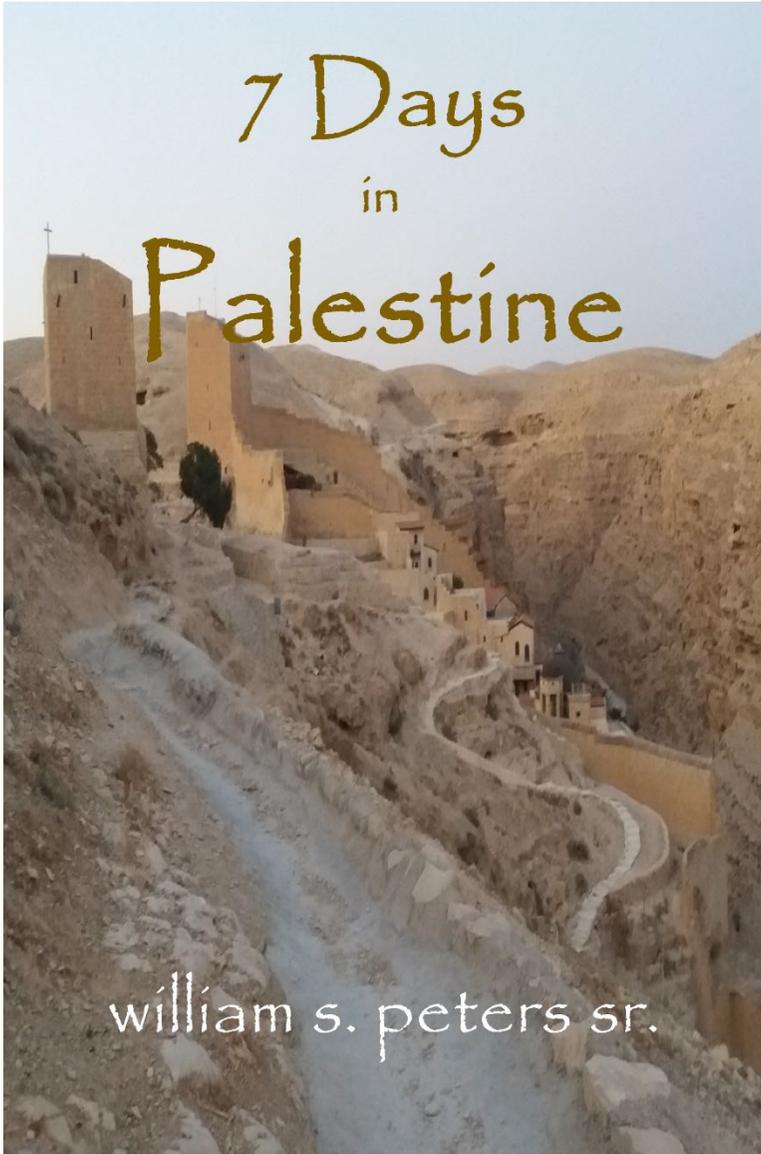
Breakfast  
for  
Butterflies



Faleeha Hassan

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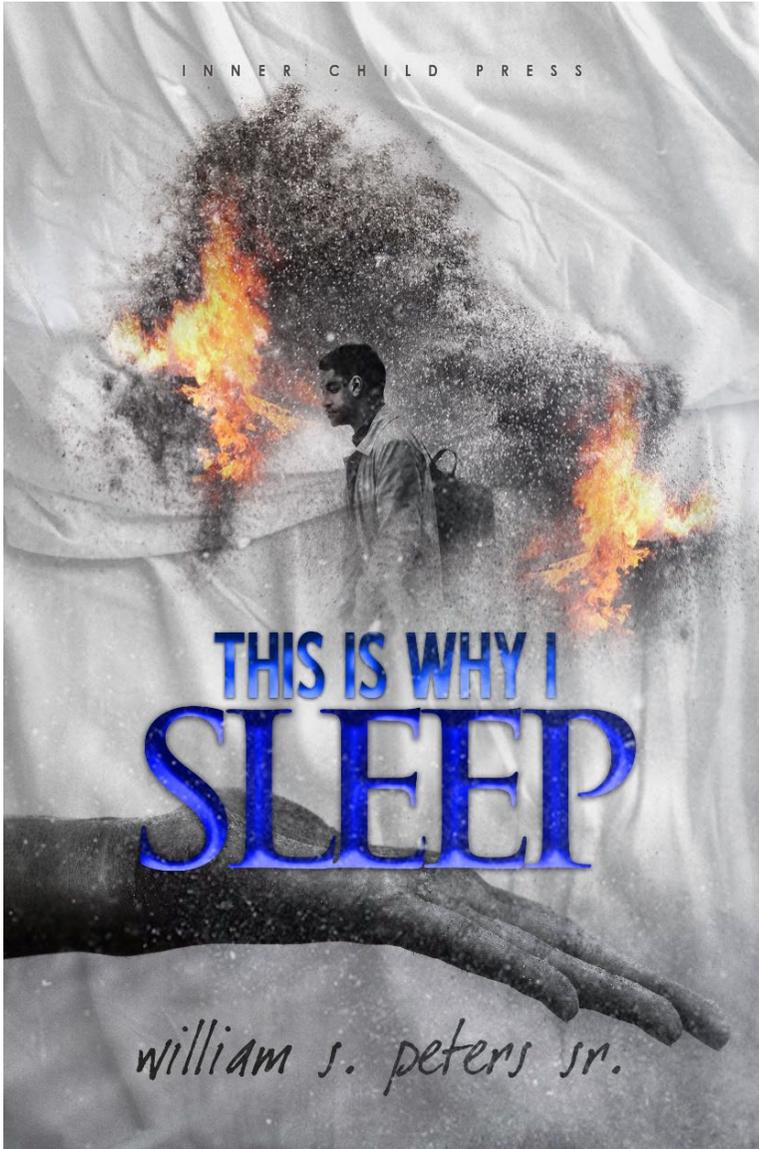
# *Tunisian Dreams*



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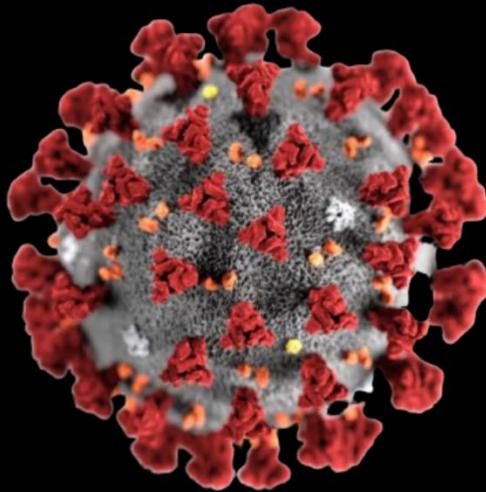
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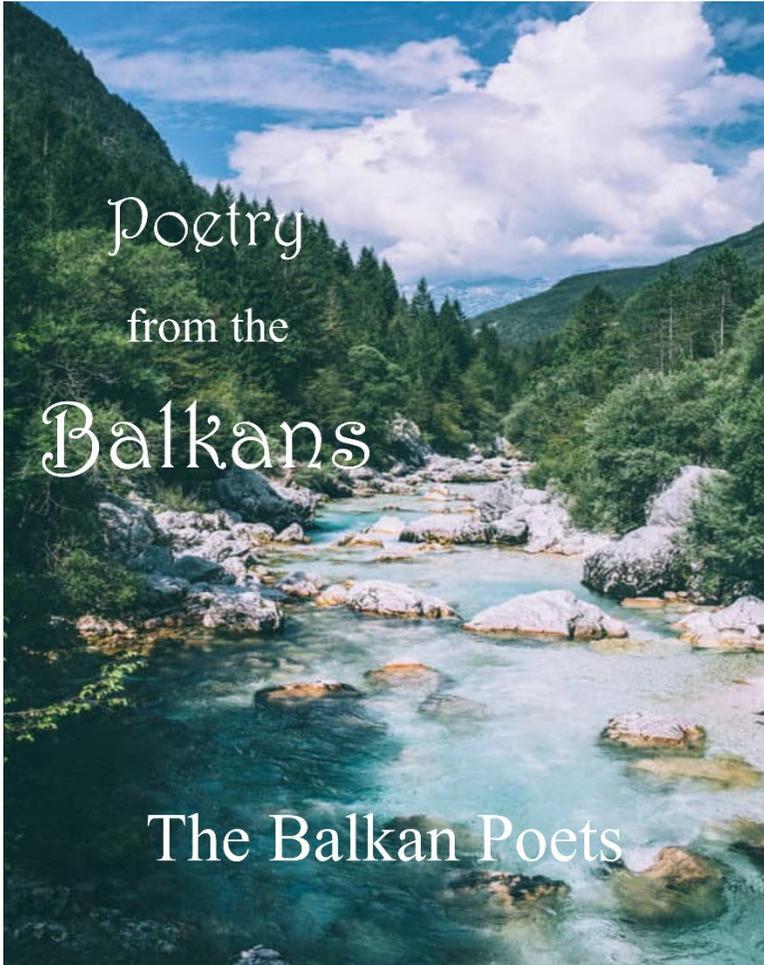
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Balkans

The Balkan Poets

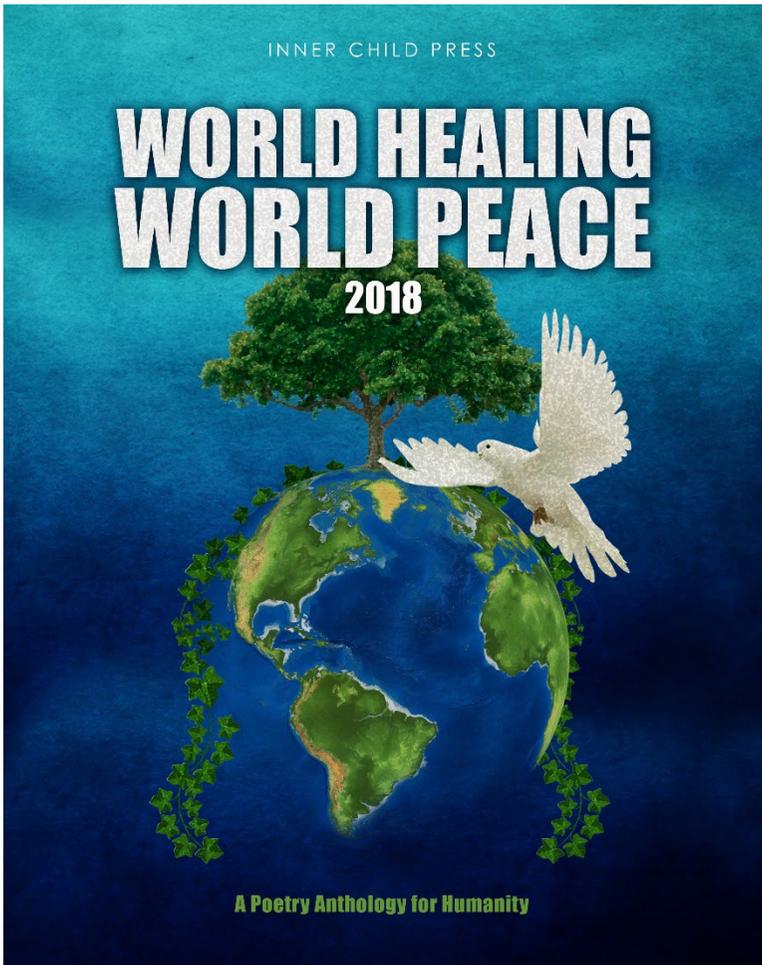
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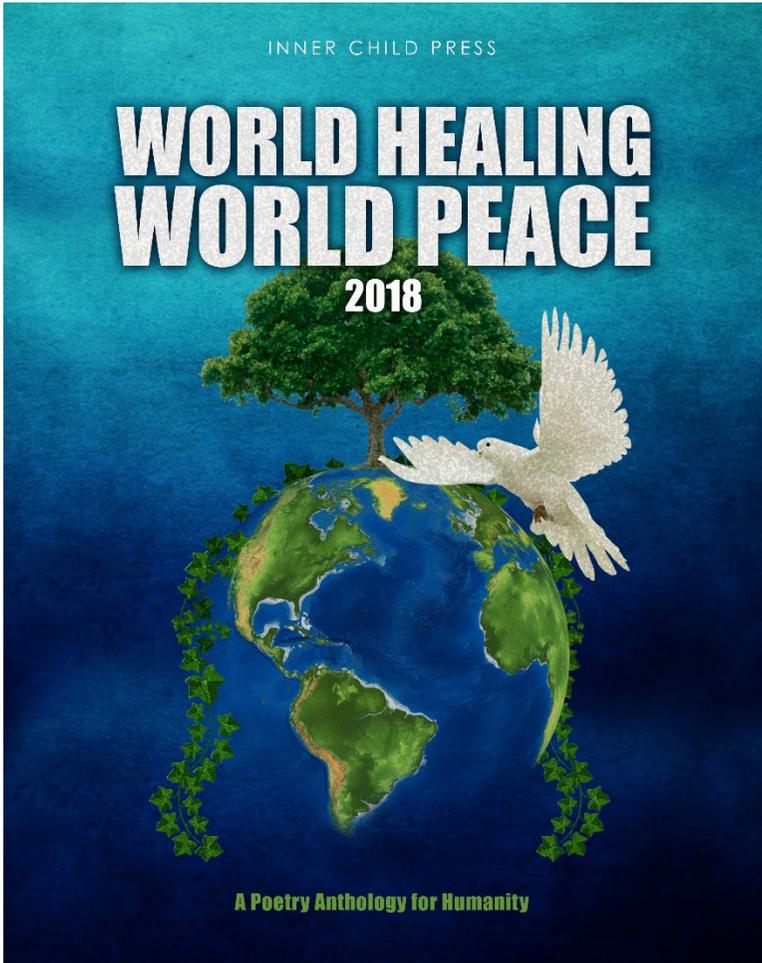


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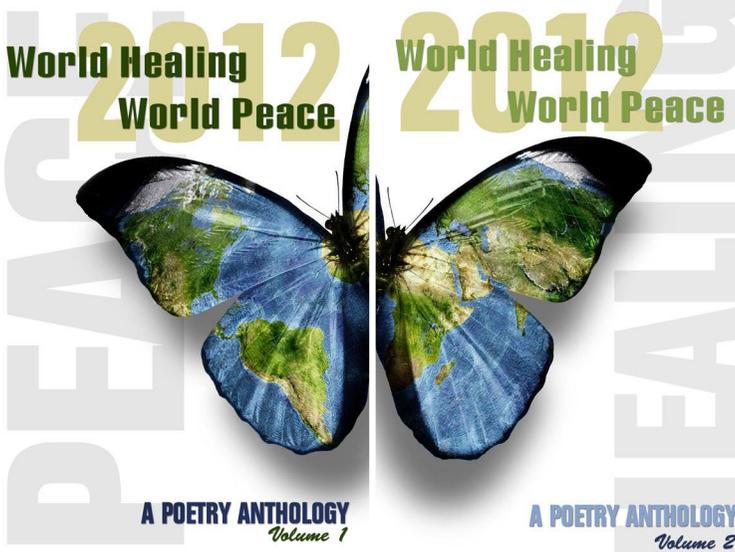
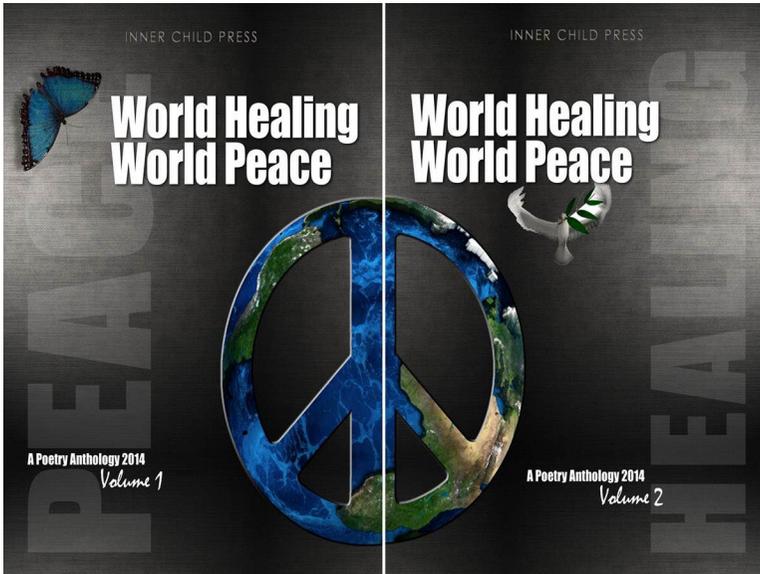
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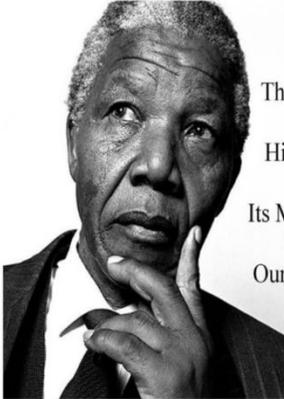
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# Mandela



The Man  
His Life  
Its Meaning  
Our Words

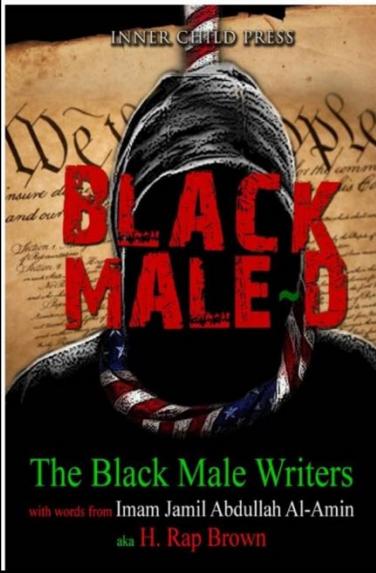
Poetry . . . Commentary & Stories  
*The Anthological Writers*

# A GATHERING OF WORDS



POETRY & COMMENTARY  
FOR

# TRAYVON MARTIN



## The Black Male Writers

with words from Imam Jamil Abdullah Al-Amin  
aka H. Rap Brown

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my  
poetry  
to . . . volume 4



the conscious poets

inspired by . . . Monte Smith

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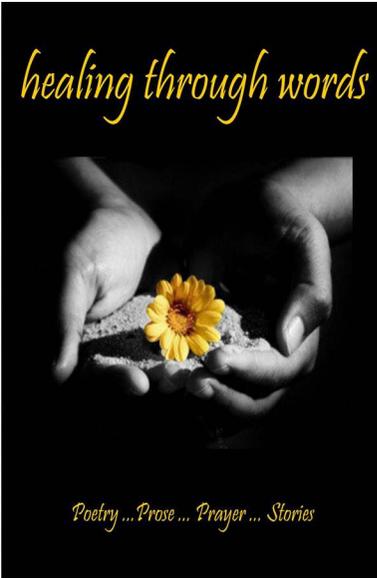
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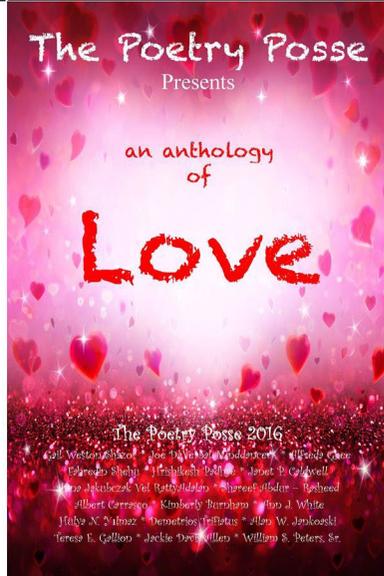
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to ...  
volume II

I want my  
A Poetry  
to ... volume 3  
a collection of the Voices of Many inspired by ...  
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(9 lines ...)  
for those who are challenged  
an anthology of Poetry inspired by ...  
Poetry Dancer

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January 2014



*Carnation*

**The Poetry Posse**

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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  
William S. Peters, Sr.

**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  
Shareef Abdur-Rasheed  
William S. Peters, Sr.

**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  
Kimberly Burnham  
William S. Peters, Sr.

**Our March Featured Poets**  
Alicia C. Cooper & Hülya Yılmaz

## 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  
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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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**The Year of the Poet**  
May 2014

*May's Featured Poets*  
ReeCee  
Joski the Poet  
Shannon Stanton



**Dedicated To our Children**

**The Poetry Posse**  
Jamie Bond  
Gal Weston Shazor  
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Kimberly Burnham  
William S. Peters, Sr.

Lily of the Valley

**the Year of the Poet**  
June 2014



*Love & Relationship*

**Rose**

*June's Featured Poets*  
Shantelle McLin  
Jacqueline D. E. Kennedy  
Abraham N. Benjamin

**The Poetry Posse**  
Jamie Bond  
Gal Weston Shazor  
Albert Infinite Carrasco  
Siddantha Beth Pearce  
Janet P. Caldwell  
June Bugg Barefield  
Debbie M. Allen  
Tony Hamninger  
Joe DeVeraldo Mindzamor  
Robert Gibbons  
Neesu Wali  
Shareef Abdul-Rasheed  
Kimberly Burnham  
William S. Peters, Sr.

**The Year of the Poet**  
July 2014



*July Feature Poets*  
Christiana A. V. Williams  
Dr. John R. Strum  
Kolajia Olanrewaju Freedom

**The Poetry Posse**  
Jamie Bond  
Gal Weston Shazor  
Albert Infinite Carrasco  
Siddantha Beth Pearce  
Janet P. Caldwell  
June Bugg Barefield  
Debbie M. Allen  
Tony Hamninger  
Joe DeVeraldo Mindzamor  
Robert Gibbons  
Neesu Wali  
Shareef Abdul-Rasheed  
Kimberly Burnham  
William S. Peters, Sr.

**Lotus**  
Asian Flower of the Month

**The Year of the Poet**  
August 2014



**Gladiolus**

*August Feature Poets*  
Ann White \* Rosalind Cherry \* Sheila Jenkins

**The Poetry Posse**  
Jamie Bond  
Gal Weston Shazor  
Albert Infinite Carrasco  
Siddantha Beth Pearce  
Janet P. Caldwell  
June Bugg Barefield  
Debbie M. Allen  
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## The Year of the Poet

September 2014

Aster Morning-Glory



Wild Carnation September Birthday Flower

September Feature Poets

Florence Malone • Keith Alan Hamilton

The Poetly Pass

Jamie Bond • Call Weston Shazor • Albert Infrin's Carrasco • Siddhartha Beth Pierce  
 Janet P. Caldwell • June Bugg Barefield • Debbie M. Allen • Tony Henninger  
 Joe DalVerbal Winddancer • Robert Gibbons • Neetu Wall • Shonee' Akbar-Rasheed  
 Kimberly Burnham • William S. Peters, Sr.

## THE YEAR OF THE POET

October 2014

Red Poppy



The Poetly Pass

Jamie Bond • Call Weston Shazor • Albert Infrin's Carrasco • Siddhartha Beth Pierce  
 Janet P. Caldwell • June Bugg Barefield • Debbie M. Allen • Tony Henninger  
 Joe DalVerbal Winddancer • Robert Gibbons • Neetu Wall • Shonee' Akbar-Rasheed  
 Kimberly Burnham • William S. Peters, Sr.

October Feature Poets

Ceri Naz • RaJendra Padhi • Elizabeth Castillo

## THE YEAR OF THE POET

November 2014

Chrysanthemum



The Poetly Pass

Jamie Bond • Call Weston Shazor • Albert Infrin's Carrasco • Siddhartha Beth Pierce  
 Janet P. Caldwell • June Bugg Barefield • Debbie M. Allen • Tony Henninger  
 Joe DalVerbal Winddancer • Robert Gibbons • Neetu Wall • Shonee' Akbar-Rasheed  
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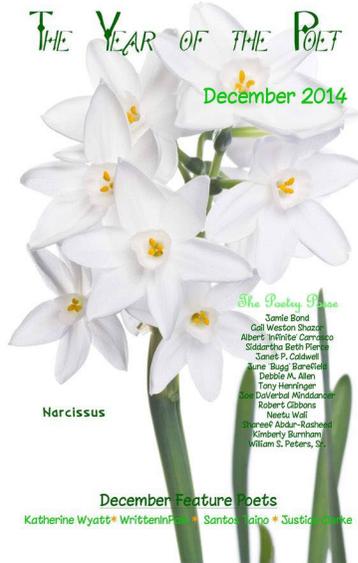
November Feature Poets

Jocelyn Roseman • Jackie Allen • James Moore • Neville Hiate

## THE YEAR OF THE POET

December 2014

Narcissus



The Poetly Pass

Jamie Bond  
 Call Weston Shazor  
 Albert Infrin's Carrasco  
 Siddhartha Beth Pierce  
 Janet P. Caldwell  
 June Bugg Barefield  
 Debbie M. Allen  
 Tony Henninger  
 Joe DalVerbal Winddancer  
 Robert Gibbons  
 Neetu Wall  
 Shonee' Akbar-Rasheed  
 Kimberly Burnham  
 William S. Peters, Sr.

December Feature Poets

Katherine Wyatt • Whittier Pappas • Santos Cairo • Justin Clarke

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# Inner Child Press Anthologies

**THE YEAR OF THE POET III**  
January 2015



**Garnet**

**The Poetry Pesse**  
 Jamie Bond  
 Gail Weston Shazor  
 Albert 'Infinite' Carrasco  
 Siddhartha Beth Pierce  
 Janet P. Caldwell  
 Tony Heminger  
 Joe DaVerbal Minddancer  
 Robert Gibson  
 Neetu Wali  
 Shareef Abdur - Rasheed  
 Kimberly Burnham  
 Ann White  
 Keith Alan Hamilton  
 Katherine Wyatt  
 Fahredin Shehu  
 Hilya N. Yilmaz  
 Teresa E. Gallion  
 Jackie Allen  
 William S. Peters, Sr.

**January Feature Poets**  
 Bismay Mohantiri \* Jen Walls \* Eric Judah

**THE YEAR OF THE POET II**  
February 2015



**Amethyst**

**THE POETRY PESSE**  
 Jamie Bond  
 Gail Weston Shazor  
 Albert 'Infinite' Carrasco  
 Siddhartha Beth Pierce  
 Janet P. Caldwell  
 Tony Heminger  
 Joe DaVerbal Minddancer  
 Robert Gibson  
 Neetu Wali  
 Shareef Abdur - Rasheed  
 Kimberly Burnham  
 Ann White  
 Keith Alan Hamilton  
 Katherine Wyatt  
 Fahredin Shehu  
 Hilya N. Yilmaz  
 Teresa E. Gallion  
 Jackie Allen  
 William S. Peters, Sr.

**FEBRUARY FEATURE POETS**  
 Iram Fatima \* Bob McNeil \* Kerstin Centervall

## The Year of the Poet II

March 2015

**Our Featured Poets**  
 Heung Sook \* Anthony Arnold \* Alicia Poland



**The Poetry Pesse 2015**  
 Jamie Bond \* Gail Weston Shazor \* Albert 'Infinite' Carrasco  
 Siddhartha Beth Pierce \* Janet P. Caldwell \* Tony Heminger  
 Joe DaVerbal Minddancer \* Neetu Wali \* Shareef Abdur - Rasheed  
 Kimberly Burnham \* Ann White \* Keith Alan Hamilton  
 Katherine Wyatt \* Fahredin Shehu \* Hilya N. Yilmaz  
 Teresa E. Gallion \* Jackie Allen \* William S. Peters, Sr.

## The Year of the Poet II

April 2015

Celebrating International Poetry Month

**Our Featured Poets**  
 Raja Williams \* Dennis Ferado \* Laure Charazac



**The Poetry Pesse 2015**  
 Jamie Bond \* Gail Weston Shazor \* Albert 'Infinite' Carrasco  
 Siddhartha Beth Pierce \* Janet P. Caldwell \* Tony Heminger  
 Joe DaVerbal Minddancer \* Neetu Wali \* Shareef Abdur - Rasheed  
 Kimberly Burnham \* Ann White \* Keith Alan Hamilton  
 Katherine Wyatt \* Fahredin Shehu \* Hilya N. Yilmaz  
 Teresa E. Gallion \* Jackie Allen \* William S. Peters, Sr.

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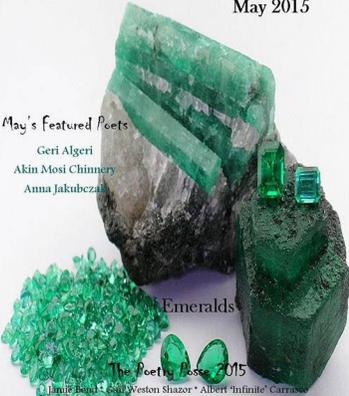
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# Inner Child Press Anthologies

## The Year of the Poet II

May 2015

May's Featured Poets  
Geri Algeri  
Akin Mosi Chimney  
Anna Jakubczak



Emeralds

The Poetry Posse 2015  
Jamie Bond \* Gail Weston Shazor \* Albert 'Infinite' Carrasco  
Siddhartha Beth Pierce \* Janet P. Caldwell \* Tony Henninger  
Joe DaVerbal Minddancer \* Neetu Wali \* Shareef Abdur - Rasheed  
Kimberly Burnham \* Ann White \* Keith Alan Hamilton  
Katherine Wyatt \* Fahredin Shelu \* Hülya N. Yilmaz  
Teresa E. Gallion \* Jackie Allen \* William S. Peters, Sr.

## The Year of the Poet II

June 2015

June's Featured Poets

Anahit Arustamyan \* Yvette D. Murrell \* Regina A. Walker



The Poetry Posse 2015

Jamie Bond \* Gail Weston Shazor \* Albert 'Infinite' Carrasco  
Siddhartha Beth Pierce \* Janet P. Caldwell \* Tony Henninger  
Joe DaVerbal Minddancer \* Neetu Wali \* Shareef Abdur - Rasheed  
Kimberly Burnham \* Ann White \* Keith Alan Hamilton  
Katherine Wyatt \* Fahredin Shelu \* Hülya N. Yilmaz  
Teresa E. Gallion \* Jackie Allen \* William S. Peters, Sr.

## The Year of the Poet II

July 2015

The Featured Poets for July 2015

Abhik Shome \* Christina Neal \* Robert Neal



The Poetry Posse 2015

Jamie Bond \* Gail Weston Shazor \* Albert 'Infinite' Carrasco  
Siddhartha Beth Pierce \* Janet P. Caldwell \* Tony Henninger  
Joe DaVerbal Minddancer \* Neetu Wali \* Shareef Abdur - Rasheed  
Kimberly Burnham \* Ann White \* Keith Alan Hamilton  
Katherine Wyatt \* Fahredin Shelu \* Hülya N. Yilmaz  
Teresa E. Gallion \* Jackie Allen \* William S. Peters, Sr.

## The Year of the Poet II

August 2015

Peridot

Featured Poets

Gayle Howell  
Ann Chalasz  
Christopher Schultz



The Poetry Posse 2015

Jamie Bond \* Gail Weston Shazor \* Albert 'Infinite' Carrasco  
Siddhartha Beth Pierce \* Janet P. Caldwell \* Tony Henninger  
Joe DaVerbal Minddancer \* Neetu Wali \* Shareef Abdur - Rasheed  
Kimberly Burnham \* Ann White \* Keith Alan Hamilton  
Katherine Wyatt \* Fahredin Shelu \* Hülya N. Yilmaz  
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# Inner Child Press Anthologies

## The Year of the Poet II

September 2015

Featured Poets  
 Alfreda Ghee \* Lonnice Weeks Badley \* Demetrios Triffatis



Sapphires

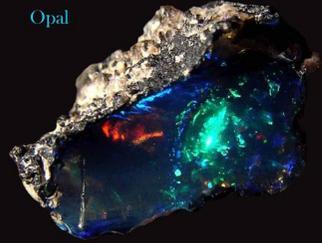
*The Poetry Posse 2015*  
 Jamie Bond \* Gail Weston Shazor \* Albert 'Infinite' Carrasco  
 Siddhartha Beth Pierce \* Janet P. Caldwell \* Tony Henninger  
 Joe DaVerbal MInddancer \* Neetu Wali \* Shareef Abdur – Rasheed  
 Kimberly Burnham \* Ann White \* Keith Alan Hamilton  
 Katherine Wyatt \* Fahredin Shehu \* Hülya N. Yilmaz  
 Teresa E. Gallion \* Jackie Allen \* William S. Peters, Sr.

## The Year of the Poet II

October 2015

Featured Poets  
 Monte Smith \* Laura J. Wolfe \* William Washington

Opal



*The Poetry Posse 2015*  
 Jamie Bond \* Gail Weston Shazor \* Albert 'Infinite' Carrasco  
 Siddhartha Beth Pierce \* Janet P. Caldwell \* Tony Henninger  
 Joe DaVerbal MInddancer \* Neetu Wali \* Shareef Abdur – Rasheed  
 Kimberly Burnham \* Ann White \* Keith Alan Hamilton  
 Katherine Wyatt \* Fahredin Shehu \* Hülya N. Yilmaz  
 Teresa E. Gallion \* Jackie Allen \* William S. Peters, Sr.

## The Year of the Poet II

November 2015

Featured Poets  
 Alan W. Jankowski  
 Bismay Mohanty  
 James Moore



Topaz

*The Poetry Posse 2015*  
 Jamie Bond \* Gail Weston Shazor \* Albert 'Infinite' Carrasco  
 Siddhartha Beth Pierce \* Janet P. Caldwell \* Tony Henninger  
 Joe DaVerbal MInddancer \* Neetu Wali \* Shareef Abdur – Rasheed  
 Kimberly Burnham \* Ann White \* Keith Alan Hamilton  
 Katherine Wyatt \* Fahredin Shehu \* Hülya N. Yilmaz  
 Teresa E. Gallion \* Jackie Allen \* William S. Peters, Sr.

## The Year of the Poet II

December 2015

Featured Poets  
 Kerione Bryan \* Michelle Joan Barulich \* Neville Hiatt



Turquoise

*The Poetry Posse 2015*  
 Jamie Bond \* Gail Weston Shazor \* Albert 'Infinite' Carrasco  
 Siddhartha Beth Pierce \* Janet P. Caldwell \* Tony Henninger  
 Joe DaVerbal MInddancer \* Neetu Wali \* Shareef Abdur – Rasheed  
 Kimberly Burnham \* Ann White \* Keith Alan Hamilton  
 Katherine Wyatt \* Fahredin Shehu \* Hülya N. Yilmaz  
 Teresa E. Gallion \* Jackie Allen \* William S. Peters, Sr.

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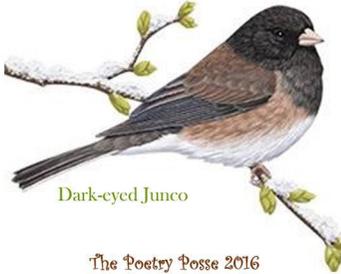
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# Inner Child Press Anthologies

## The Year of the Poet III January 2016

### Featured Poets

Lana Joseph \* Atom Cyrus Rush \* Christena Williams



Dark-eyed Junco

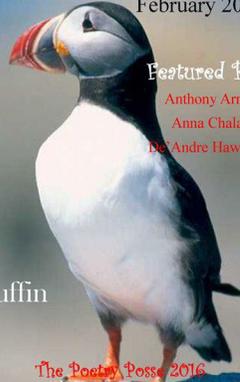
### The Poetry Posse 2016

Gail Weston Shazor \* Anna Jakubczak Vel Battyvidalen \* Anna J. White  
Fahredo Shehu \* Hrishikesh Padhye \* Janet P. Caldwell  
Joe DeVriesof Miodolencev \* Sharon Abudar - Rasheed  
Albert Carrasco \* Kimberly Barnham \* Anna J. White  
Huiya N. Yilmaz \* Demetrios Triantaf \* Alan W. Jankooski  
Teresa E. Gallion \* Jackie Davis Allen \* William S. Peters, Sr.

## The Year of the Poet III February 2016

### Featured Poets

Anthony Arnold  
Anna Chalas  
Dr. Andre Hawthorne



Puffin

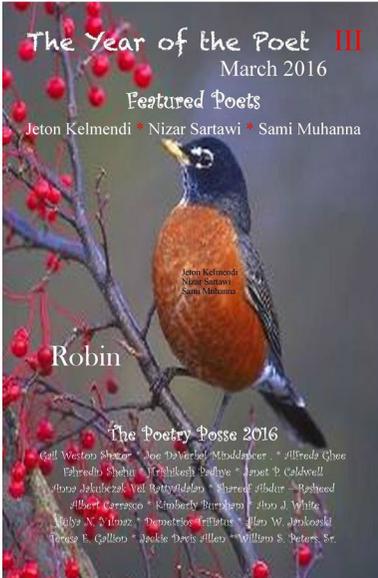
### The Poetry Posse 2016

Gail Weston Shazor \* Joe DeVriesof Miodolencev \* Alfredo Ghee  
Fahredo Shehu \* Hrishikesh Padhye \* Janet P. Caldwell  
Anna Jakubczak Vel Battyvidalen \* Sharon Abudar - Rasheed  
Albert Carrasco \* Kimberly Barnham \* Anna J. White  
Huiya N. Yilmaz \* Demetrios Triantaf \* Alan W. Jankooski  
Teresa E. Gallion \* Jackie Davis Allen \* William S. Peters, Sr.

## The Year of the Poet III March 2016

### Featured Poets

Jeton Kelmendi \* Nizar Sartawi \* Sami Muhanna



Robin

### The Poetry Posse 2016

Gail Weston Shazor \* Joe DeVriesof Miodolencev \* Alfredo Ghee  
Fahredo Shehu \* Hrishikesh Padhye \* Janet P. Caldwell  
Anna Jakubczak Vel Battyvidalen \* Sharon Abudar - Rasheed  
Albert Carrasco \* Kimberly Barnham \* Anna J. White  
Huiya N. Yilmaz \* Demetrios Triantaf \* Alan W. Jankooski  
Teresa E. Gallion \* Jackie Davis Allen \* William S. Peters, Sr.

## The Year of the Poet III

### Featured Poets

Ali Abdolrezaei  
Anna Chalas  
Agim Vinca  
Ceri Naz



Black Capped Chickadee

### The Poetry Posse 2016

Gail Weston Shazor \* Joe DeVriesof Miodolencev \* Alfredo Ghee  
Fahredo Shehu \* Hrishikesh Padhye \* Janet P. Caldwell  
Anna Jakubczak Vel Battyvidalen \* Sharon Abudar - Rasheed  
Albert Carrasco \* Kimberly Barnham \* Anna J. White  
Huiya N. Yilmaz \* Demetrios Triantaf \* Alan W. Jankooski  
Teresa E. Gallion \* Jackie Davis Allen \* William S. Peters, Sr.

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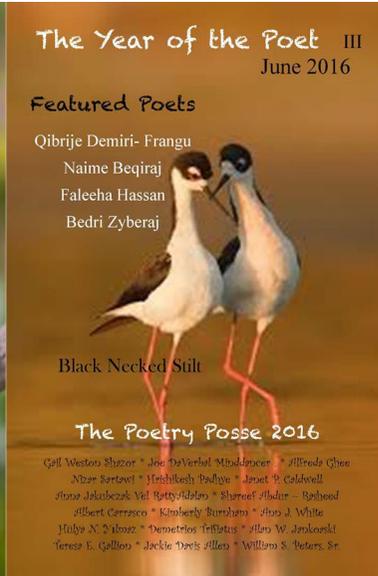


**The Year of the Poet III**  
May 2016

**Featured Poets**  
Bob Strum  
Barbara Allan  
D.L. Davis

**Oriole**

**The Poetry Posse 2016**  
Gail Weston Shazor \* Joe DeVierbel Misdancker \* Alfredo Ghoe  
Nizar Sertawi \* Hrishikesh Padhye \* Janet P. Caldwell  
Alana Jakubczak Vel Betty Siddons \* Shereef Abdur - Rashad  
Albert Carrasco \* Kimberly Burroughs \* Alana J. White  
Hilary N. N'abasz \* Demetrios Trifatis \* Alan W. Jankowski  
Teresa E. Gallon \* Jackie Davis Allen \* William S. Peters, Sr.

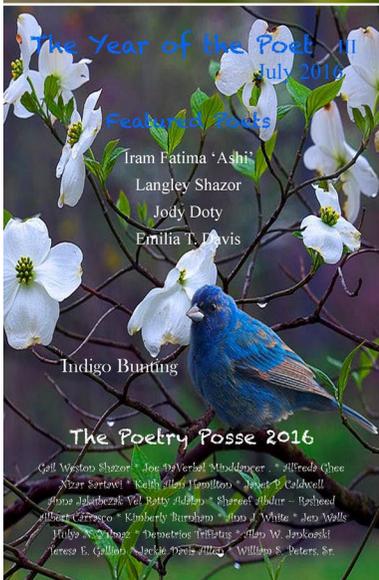


**The Year of the Poet III**  
June 2016

**Featured Poets**  
Qibrije Demiri- Frangu  
Naime Beqiraj  
Faleeha Hassan  
Bedri Zyberaj

**Black Necked Stilt**

**The Poetry Posse 2016**  
Gail Weston Shazor \* Joe DeVierbel Misdancker \* Alfredo Ghoe  
Nizar Sertawi \* Hrishikesh Padhye \* Janet P. Caldwell  
Alana Jakubczak Vel Betty Siddons \* Shereef Abdur - Rashad  
Albert Carrasco \* Kimberly Burroughs \* Alana J. White  
Hilary N. N'abasz \* Demetrios Trifatis \* Alan W. Jankowski  
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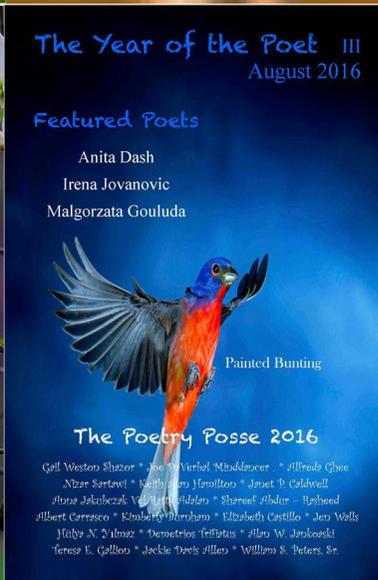


**The Year of the Poet III**  
July 2016

**Featured Poets**  
Iram Fatima 'Ashi'  
Langley Shazor  
Jody Doty  
Emilia T. Davis

**Indigo Bunting**

**The Poetry Posse 2016**  
Gail Weston Shazor \* Joe DeVierbel Misdancker \* Alfredo Ghoe  
Nizar Sertawi \* Keith Allen Hamilton \* Janet P. Caldwell  
Alana Jakubczak Vel Betty Siddons \* Shereef Abdur - Rashad  
Albert Carrasco \* Kimberly Burroughs \* Alana J. White \* Jen Walls  
Hilary N. N'abasz \* Demetrios Trifatis \* Alan W. Jankowski  
Teresa E. Gallon \* Jackie Davis Allen \* William S. Peters, Sr.



**The Year of the Poet III**  
August 2016

**Featured Poets**  
Anita Dash  
Irena Jovanovic  
Malgorzata Gouluda

**Painted Bunting**

**The Poetry Posse 2016**  
Gail Weston Shazor \* Joe DeVierbel Misdancker \* Alfredo Ghoe  
Nizar Sertawi \* Keith Allen Hamilton \* Janet P. Caldwell  
Alana Jakubczak Vel Betty Siddons \* Shereef Abdur - Rashad  
Albert Carrasco \* Kimberly Burroughs \* Elizabeth Castillo \* Jen Walls  
Hilary N. N'abasz \* Demetrios Trifatis \* Alan W. Jankowski  
Teresa E. Gallon \* Jackie Davis Allen \* William S. Peters, Sr.

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**The Year of the Poet III**  
September 2016

**Featured Poets**

Simone Weber  
Abhijit Sen  
Eunice Barbara C. Novilla



Long Billed Curlew

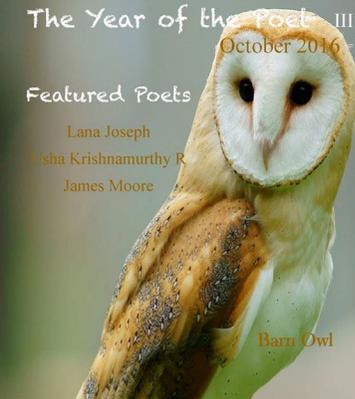
**The Poetry Posse 2016**

Gail Weston Shazor \* Joe DeVerbal Muddancer \* Jen Walls  
Nizar Sattari \* Janet P. Caldwell \* Alfredo Ghese  
Alona Jakubczak Val Betty Alden \* Sharief Abdur - Rashad  
Albert Carrasco \* Kimberly Bircham \* Elizabeth Castillo  
Hilby N. S. Ahmad \* Demetrios Tripathi \* Allan W. Jankowski  
Teresa E. Gallon \* Jackie Davis Allen \* William S. Peters, Sr.

**The Year of the Poet III**  
October 2016

**Featured Poets**

Lana Joseph  
Visha Krishnamurthy R  
James Moore



Barn Owl

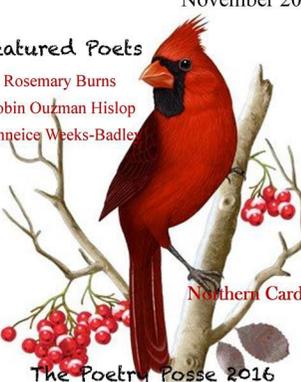
**The Poetry Posse 2016**

Gail Weston Shazor \* Caroline Nazzareno \* Jen Walls  
Nizar Sattari \* Janet P. Caldwell \* Alfredo Ghese  
Joe DeVerbal Muddancer \* Sharief Abdur - Rashad  
Albert Carrasco \* Kimberly Bircham \* Elizabeth Castillo  
Hilby N. S. Ahmad \* Demetrios Tripathi \* Allan W. Jankowski  
Teresa E. Gallon \* Jackie Davis Allen \* William S. Peters, Sr.

**The Year of the Poet III**  
November 2016

**Featured Poets**

Rosemary Burns  
Robin Ouzman Hislop  
Lonneice Weeks-Badle



Northern Cardinal

**The Poetry Posse 2016**

Gail Weston Shazor \* Caroline Nazzareno \* Jen Walls  
Nizar Sattari \* Janet P. Caldwell \* Alfredo Ghese  
Joe DeVerbal Muddancer \* Sharief Abdur - Rashad  
Albert Carrasco \* Kimberly Bircham \* Elizabeth Castillo  
Hilby N. S. Ahmad \* Demetrios Tripathi \* Allan W. Jankowski  
Teresa E. Gallon \* Jackie Davis Allen \* William S. Peters, Sr.

**The Year of the Poet III**  
December 2016

**Featured Poets**

Samih Masoud  
Mountassir Aziz Bien  
Abdulkadir Musa



Rough Legged Hawk

**The Poetry Posse 2016**

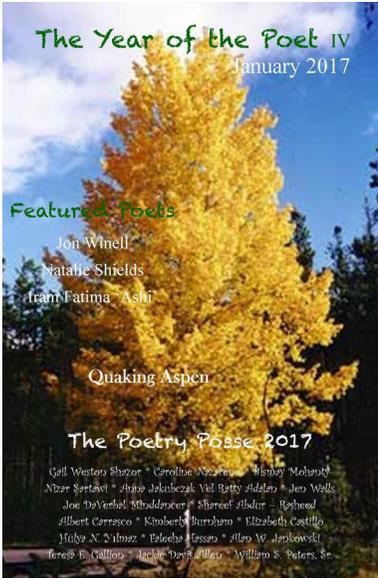
Gail Weston Shazor \* Caroline Nazzareno \* Jen Walls  
Nizar Sattari \* Janet P. Caldwell \* Alfredo Ghese  
Joe DeVerbal Muddancer \* Sharief Abdur - Rashad  
Albert Carrasco \* Kimberly Bircham \* Elizabeth Castillo  
Hilby N. S. Ahmad \* Demetrios Tripathi \* Allan W. Jankowski  
Teresa E. Gallon \* Jackie Davis Allen \* William S. Peters, Sr.

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**The Year of the Poet IV**  
January 2017

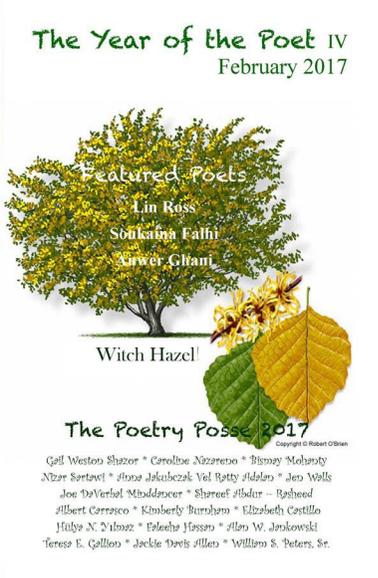


**Featured Poets**  
Jon Winell  
Natale Shields  
Fran Fatima Ashi

**Quaking Aspen**

**The Poetry Posse 2017**  
Gail Weston Shazor \* Caroline Nazareno \* Binay Mohanty  
Nizar Sertawi \* Atona Jakubczak Val Betty Adelan \* Jen Walls  
Joe DeVerbal Mindmancer \* Shareef Alidur - Rashad  
Albert Carrasco \* Kimberly Bursham \* Elizabeth Castillo  
Julya N. D'Almeida \* Falecha Jasson \* Jilao W. Jankowski  
Teresa E. Gallon \* Jackie Davis Allan \* William S. Peters, Sr.

**The Year of the Poet IV**  
February 2017

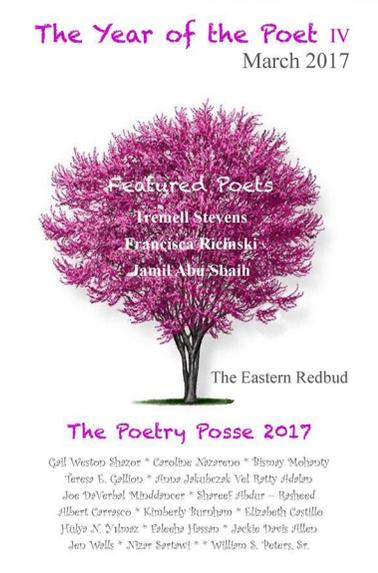


**Featured Poets**  
Lin Ross  
Sankhina Falhi  
Anwer Ghani

**Witch Hazel**

**The Poetry Posse 2017**  
Gail Weston Shazor \* Caroline Nazareno \* Binay Mohanty  
Nizar Sertawi \* Atona Jakubczak Val Betty Adelan \* Jen Walls  
Joe DeVerbal Mindmancer \* Shareef Alidur - Rashad  
Albert Carrasco \* Kimberly Bursham \* Elizabeth Castillo  
Julya N. D'Almeida \* Falecha Jasson \* Jilao W. Jankowski  
Teresa E. Gallon \* Jackie Davis Allan \* William S. Peters, Sr.

**The Year of the Poet IV**  
March 2017

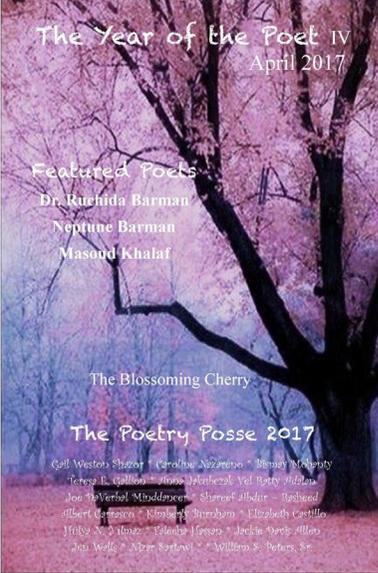


**Featured Poets**  
Tremell Stevens  
Francisca Ricinski  
Jamil Abu Shaib

**The Eastern Redbud**

**The Poetry Posse 2017**  
Gail Weston Shazor \* Caroline Nazareno \* Binay Mohanty  
Teresa E. Gallon \* Atona Jakubczak Val Betty Adelan  
Joe DeVerbal Mindmancer \* Shareef Alidur - Rashad  
Albert Carrasco \* Kimberly Bursham \* Elizabeth Castillo  
Julya N. D'Almeida \* Falecha Jasson \* Jackie Davis Allan  
Jen Walls \* Nizar Sertawi \* \* William S. Peters, Sr.

**The Year of the Poet IV**  
April 2017



**Featured Poets**  
Dr. Ruchida Barman  
Neptune Barman  
Masoud Khalaf

**The Blossoming Cherry**

**The Poetry Posse 2017**  
Gail Weston Shazor \* Caroline Nazareno \* Binay Mohanty  
Teresa E. Gallon \* Atona Jakubczak Val Betty Adelan  
Joe DeVerbal Mindmancer \* Shareef Alidur - Rashad  
Albert Carrasco \* Kimberly Bursham \* Elizabeth Castillo  
Julya N. D'Almeida \* Falecha Jasson \* Jackie Davis Allan  
Jen Walls \* Nizar Sertawi \* \* William S. Peters, Sr.

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# Inner Child Press Anthologies

## 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 Nazereno \* Bismay Mohanty  
Teresa E. Gallion \* Alana Jakubczak Val Betty Aldana  
Joe DeVierbal Mbadamec \* Shareef Abdur - Rashad  
Albert Carrasco \* Kimberly Burroughs \* Elizabeth Castillo  
Hilja N. Vilhoz \* Felicia Hesson \* Jackie Davis Allen  
Jen Walls \* Nizar Sertawi \* \* William S. Peters, Sr.

## The Year of the Poet IV June 2017

### Featured Poets

Eliza Seglet  
Tze-Min Tsai  
Abdulla Issa

The Linden Tree

### The Poetry Posse 2017

Gail Weston Shazor \* Caroline Nazereno \* Bismay Mohanty  
Teresa E. Gallion \* Alana Jakubczak Val Betty Aldana  
Joe DeVierbal Mbadamec \* Shareef Abdur - Rashad  
Albert Carrasco \* Kimberly Burroughs \* Elizabeth Castillo  
Hilja N. Vilhoz \* Felicia Hesson \* 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 Nazereno \* Bismay Mohanty  
Teresa E. Gallion \* Alana Jakubczak Val Betty Aldana  
Joe DeVierbal Mbadamec \* Shareef Abdur - Rashad  
Albert Carrasco \* Kimberly Burroughs \* Elizabeth Castillo  
Hilja N. Vilhoz \* Felicia Hesson \* 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 Nazereno \* Bismay Mohanty  
Teresa E. Gallion \* Alana Jakubczak Val Betty Aldana  
Joe DeVierbal Mbadamec \* Shareef Abdur - Rashad  
Albert Carrasco \* Kimberly Burroughs \* Elizabeth Castillo  
Hilja N. Vilhoz \* Felicia Hesson \* Jackie Davis Allen  
Jen Walls \* Nizar Sertawi \* \* William S. Peters, Sr.

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# Inner Child Press Anthologies

## 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  
Hülya N. Yilmaz \* Faleeha Hassan \* Jackie Davis Allen  
Jen Walls \* Nizar Sartawi \* William S. Peters, Sr.

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# Inner Child Press Anthologies

## 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 Sartawi \* 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 Sartawi \* 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

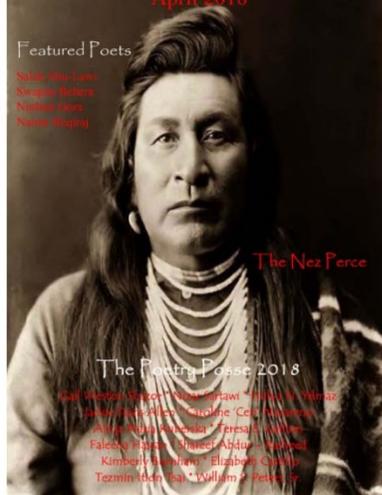
Gail Weston Shazor \* Nizar Sartawi \* Hülya N. Yilmaz  
Jackie Davis Allen \* Caroline 'Ceri' Nazareno  
Alicja Maria Kuberska \* Teresa E. Gallion  
Faleeha Hassan \* Shareef Abdur - Rasheed  
Kimberly Burnham \* Elizabeth Castillo  
Tezmin Ition Tsai \* William S. Peters, Sr.

## The Year of the Poet V

April 2018

### Featured Poets

Sonia Abu-Leneh  
Swagata Bhattacharya  
Nathan Dean  
Nancy Wang



The Nez Perce

### The Poetry Posse 2018

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

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The Year of the Poet V  
May 2018

Featured Poets  
Zahly 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 Maliqi \* Daim Miftari \* Gojko Božović \* Sofija Živković

The Paleo Indians

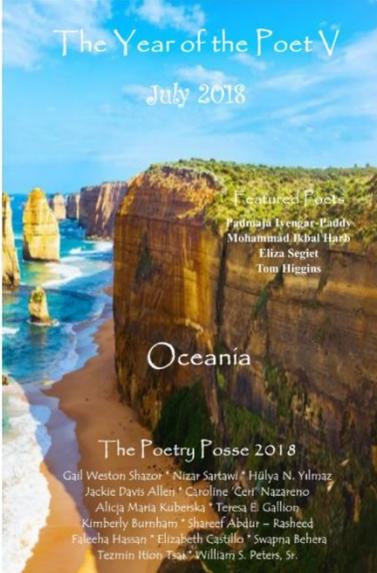


The Poetry Posse 2018  
Gail Weston Shazor \* Nizar Sattawi \* Hülya N. Yilmaz  
Jackie Davis Allen \* Caroline 'Ceri' Nazareno  
Alicja Maria Kuberska \* Teresa E. Gallion  
Kimberly Burnham \* Shareef Abdur – Rasheed  
Faleeha Hassan \* Elizabeth Castillo \* Swapna Behera  
Tezmin Ition Tsai \* William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

The Year of the Poet V  
July 2018

Featured Poets  
Patnaja Iyengar-Paddy  
Mohammad Akbal Harb  
Eliza Seget  
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  
Kimberly Burnham \* Shareef Abdur – Rasheed  
Ashok K. Bhargava \* Elizabeth Castillo \* Swapna Behera  
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# Inner Child Press Anthologies

## The Year of the Poet V

September 2018

### The Aztecs & Incas



#### Featured Poets

Kolade Olanrewaju Freedom  
Eliza Segiet  
Mazher Hussain Abdul Ghani  
Lily Swarn

#### The Poetry Posse 2018

Gail Weston Shazor \* Nizar Sartawi \* 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 V

October 2018

#### Featured Poets

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



#### The Poetry Posse 2018

Gail Weston Shazor \* Nizar Sartawi \* 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 V

November 2018

#### Featured Poets

Michelle Joan Barulich \* Monsif Beroual  
Krystyna Konecka \* Nassira Nezzar

#### The Poetry Posse 2018

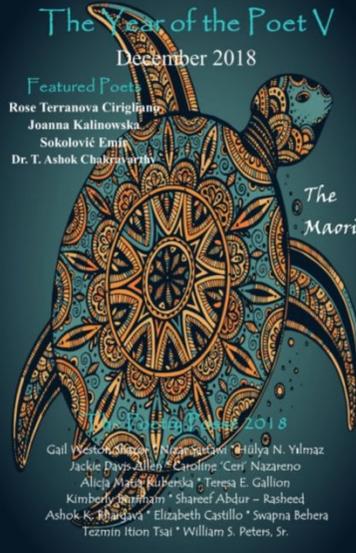
Gail Weston Shazor \* Nizar Sartawi \* Hülya N. Yilmaz  
Jackie Davis Allen \* Caroline 'Ceri' Nazareno  
Alicja Maria Kuberska \* Teresa E. Gallion  
Kimberly Burnham \* Shareef Abdur - Rasheed  
Ashok K. Bhargava \* Elizabeth Castillo \* Swapna Behera  
Tezmin Ition Tsai \* William S. Peters, Sr.

## The Year of the Poet V

December 2018

#### Featured Poets

Rose Terranova Cirigliano  
Joanna Kalinowska  
Sokolović Emily  
Dr. T. Ashok Chakravarthy



The  
Maori

#### The Poetry Posse 2018

Gail Weston Shazor \* Nizar Sartawi \* 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  
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# Inner Child Press Anthologies

## The Year of the Poet VI

January 2019



Indigenous North Americans

### Featured Poets

Houda Elfehtali  
Anthony Briscoe  
Iram Fatima 'Ashi'  
Dr. K. K. Mathew

*Dream Catcher*

### The Poetry Posse 2019

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

## The Year of the Poet VI

February 2019



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 Behara  
Tezmin Ition Tsai \* William S. Peters, Sr.

## The Year of the Poet VI

March 2019

### Featured Poets

Enesa Mahmić \* Sylwia K. Malinowska  
Shurouk Hammoud \* Anver 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 Behara  
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  
Kimberly Burnham \* Shareef Abdur – Rasheed  
Ashok K. Bhargava \* Elizabeth Castillo \* Swapna Behara  
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**The Year of the Poet VI**  
 May 2019

**Featured Poets**  
 Emad Al-Haydari \* Hussein Nasser Jabr  
 Wahab Sheriff \* 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 Itton Tsai \* William S. Peters, Sr.

**The Year of the Poet VI**  
 June 2019

**Featured Poets**  
 Kate Gaudi Powiekszone \* 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 Itton 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 Itton 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  
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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 Osooha \* Denisa Kondić  
Pankhuri Sinha \* Christena AV Williams



**The Mile 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 \* Ohindu 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  
Bharati Nayak \* Kapardeli Efthimia



**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  
Tezmin Ition Tsai \* William S. Peters, Sr.

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# Inner Child Press Anthologies

## The Year of the Poet VII

January 2020

### Featured Poets

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

1901 Jean Henry Dunant and 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 Kubenska \* Teresa E. Gallion \* Joe Paire  
Kimberly Bunnham \* Shareef Abdur – Rashied  
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 Kubenska \* Teresa E. Gallion \* Joe Paire  
Kimberly Bunnham \* Shareef Abdur – Rashied  
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 Kubenska \* Teresa E. Gallion \* Joe Paire  
Kimberly Bunnham \* Shareef Abdur – Rashied  
Ashok K. Bhargava \* Elizabeth Castillo \* Swapna Behera  
Tezmin Ition Tsai \* William S. Peters, Sr.

## The Year of the Poet VII

April 2020

### Featured Poets

Robini Behera \* Mircea Dan Duta  
Monalisa Dash Dwibedy \* NilavroNil 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 Kubenska \* Teresa E. Gallion \* Joe Paire  
Kimberly Bunnham \* Shareef Abdur – Rashied  
Ashok K. Bhargava \* Elizabeth Castillo \* Swapna Behera  
Tezmin Ition Tsai \* William S. Peters, Sr.

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# Inner Child Press Anthologies

## The Year of the Poet VII

May 2020

### Featured Poets

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

Ralph Bunche ~ 1950



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 Patre  
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

Elitichia 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 Patre  
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 Patre  
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 Pragma 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 Patre  
Kimberly Burnham \* Shareef Abdur - Rasheed  
Ashok K. Bhargava \* Elizabeth Castillo \* Swapna Behera  
Tezmin Ition Tsai \* William S. Peters, Sr.

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# Inner Child Press Anthologies

## The Year of the Poet VII

September 2020

### Featured Poets

Raed Amis Al-Jishi • Sorkotović 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 Shazze • Albert Carasso • Hillya N. Yilmaz  
Jackie Davis Allen • Caroline Nazareno • Eliza Segiet  
Alicja Maria Kubenska • Teresa E. Gallion • Joe Paine  
Kimberly Burnham • Shareef Abdur – Rasheed  
Ashok K. Bhargava • Elizabeth Castillo • Swapna Behera  
Tezmin Hton 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



The Year of Peace

Celebrating past Nobel Peace Prize Recipients

### The Poetry Posse 2020

Gail Weston Shazze • Albert Carasso • Hillya N. Yilmaz  
Jackie Davis Allen • Caroline Nazareno • Eliza Segiet  
Alicja Maria Kubenska • Teresa E. Gallion • Joe Paine  
Kimberly Burnham • Shareef Abdur – Rasheed  
Ashok K. Bhargava • Elizabeth Castillo • Swapna Behera  
Tezmin Hton Tsai • William S. Peters, Sr.

## The Year of the Poet VII

November 2020

### Featured Poets

Elisa Mascia • Sue Lindenberg McClelland  
Hatif Janabi • Ivan Gaćina

Liu Xiaobo ~ 2010



The Year of Peace

Celebrating past Nobel Peace Prize Recipients

### The Poetry Posse 2020

Gail Weston Shazze • Albert Carasso • Hillya N. Yilmaz  
Jackie Davis Allen • Caroline Nazareno • Eliza Segiet  
Alicja Maria Kubenska • Teresa E. Gallion • Joe Paine  
Kimberly Burnham • Shareef Abdur – Rasheed  
Ashok K. Bhargava • Elizabeth Castillo • Swapna Behera  
Tezmin Hton Tsai • William S. Peters, Sr.

## The Year of the Poet VII

December 2020

### Featured Poets

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

Abiy Ahmed Ali ~ 2019



The Year of Peace

Celebrating past Nobel Peace Prize Recipients

### The Poetry Posse 2020

Gail Weston Shazze • Albert Carasso • Hillya N. Yilmaz  
Jackie Davis Allen • Caroline Nazareno • Eliza Segiet  
Alicja Maria Kubenska • Teresa E. Gallion • Joe Paine  
Kimberly Burnham • Shareef Abdur – Rasheed  
Ashok K. Bhargava • Elizabeth Castillo • Swapna Behera  
Tezmin Hton Tsai • William S. Peters, Sr.

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# Inner Child Press Anthologies

## 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

#### The Poetry Posse 2020

Gail Weston Shazor \* Albert Carascio \* 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 VIII

February 2021

### Featured Global Poets

T. Ramesh Babu \* Ruchida Barman  
Neptune Barman \* Falecha Hassan

Emory Douglas : 1968 Olympics mural



### Poetry ... Ekphrastically Speaking

#### The Poetry Posse 2021

Gail Weston Shazor \* Albert Carascio \* 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 VIII

March 2021

### Featured Global Poets

Claudia Piccinno \* Mohammed Jabr  
Luzviminda Rivera \* Nigar Arif

Tatyana Fazlalizadeh



### Poetry ... Ekphrastically Speaking

#### The Poetry Posse 2021

Gail Weston Shazor \* Albert Carascio \* 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  
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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

#### The Poetry Posse 2021

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Jackie Davis Allen \* Caroline Nazareno \* Eliza Segiet  
Alicja Maria Kuberska \* Teresa E. Gallion \* Joe Patte  
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## The Year of the Poet VIII

May 2021

### Featured Global Poets

Paramita Mukherjee Mullick \* Rose Zerguine  
Jaydeep Sarangi \* Bismay Mohanty

Diego Rivera



Poetry ... Ekphrastically Speaking

### The Poetry Posse 2021

Gail Weston Shazor \* Albert Carassco \* 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 VIII

June 2021

### Featured Global Poets

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

Rayen Kang



Poetry ... Ekphrastically Speaking

### The Poetry Posse 2021

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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 Itton Tsai \* William S. Peters, Sr.

## The Year of the Poet VIII

July 2021

### Featured Global Poets

Iram Jaan \* Vesna Mundishevka-Veljanovska  
Ngozi Olivia Osohwa \* Lan Qyqalla

Goncalao Mabunda



Poetry ... Ekphrastically Speaking

### The Poetry Posse 2021

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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 Itton Tsai \* William S. Peters, Sr.

## 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

Gail Weston Shazor \* Albert Carassco \* 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 VIII

September 2021

### Featured Global Poets

Monsif Beroual \* Sandesh Ghimire

Sharmila Poudel \* Pavol Janik

Heather Jansch



Poetry ... Ekphrastically Speaking

### The Poetry Posse 2021

Gail Weston Shazor \* Albert Carasco \* Hülya N. Yilmaz  
Jackie Davis Allen \* Caroline Nazareno \* Eliza Segiet  
Alicja Maria Kuberska \* Teresa E. Gallion \* Joe Paite  
Kimberly Burnham \* Shareef Abdur - Rasheed  
Ashok K. Bhargava \* Elizabeth Castillo \* Swapna Behera  
Tezmin Itton 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

### The Poetry Posse 2021

Gail Weston Shazor \* Albert Carasco \* Hülya N. Yilmaz  
Jackie Davis Allen \* Caroline Nazareno \* Eliza Segiet  
Alicja Maria Kuberska \* Teresa E. Gallion \* Joe Paite  
Kimberly Burnham \* Shareef Abdur - Rasheed  
Ashok K. Bhargava \* Elizabeth Castillo \* Swapna Behera  
Tezmin Itton 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

### The Poetry Posse 2021

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

## The Year of the Poet VIII

December 2021

### Featured Global Poets

Orbinda Ganga \* Fadairo Tesleem

Anthony Arnold \* Iyad Shamasnah

Fredric Edwin Church



Poetry ... Ekphrastically Speaking

### The Poetry Posse 2021

Gail Weston Shazor \* Albert Carasco \* Hülya N. Yilmaz  
Jackie Davis Allen \* Caroline Nazareno \* Eliza Segiet  
Alicja Maria Kuberska \* Teresa E. Gallion \* Joe Paite  
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## The Year of the Poet IX

January 2022

Featured Global Poets

Ratan Ghosh \* Christine Neil-Wright  
Andrew Scott \* Ashok Kumar

Climate Change : The Ice Cap



Poetry . . . Ekphrastically Speaking

The Poetry Posse 2021

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 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

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  
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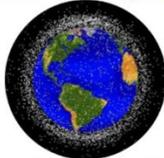
## The Year of the Poet IX

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

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 IX

April 2022

Featured Global Poets

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

Climate Change and Oceans



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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

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 IX

June 2022

### Featured Global Poets

Yuan Changming \* Azeizat Okunlola  
Tanja Ajtić \* Philip Chijioke Abonyi

### Climate Change and Trees



Poetry . . . Ekphrastically Speaking

### The Poetry Posse 2022

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 IX

July 2022

### Featured Global Poets

Michelle Joan Barulich \* Mili Das  
Anna Ferriero \* Ujjal Mandal

### Climate Change and Animals



Poetry . . . Ekphrastically Speaking

### The Poetry Posse 2022

Gail Weston Shazor \* Albert Carasco \* Hülya N. Yilmaz  
Jackie Davis Allen \* Caroline Nazareno \* Eliza Segiet  
Alicja Maria Kuberska \* Teresa E. Gallion \* Joe Paire  
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Ashok K. Bhargava \* Elizabeth Castillo \* Swapna Behera  
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## The Year of the Poet IX

August 2022

### Featured Global Poets

Pankhuri Sinha \* Abdulloh Abdumominov  
Caroline Turunç \* Tali Cohen Shabtai

### Climate Change and Agriculture



Poetry . . . Ekphrastically Speaking

### The Poetry Posse 2022

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Jackie Davis Allen \* Caroline Nazareno \* Eliza Segiet  
Alicja Maria Kuberska \* Teresa E. Gallion \* Joe Paire  
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<p><b>The Year of the Poet IX</b> November 2022</p> <p><b>Featured Global Poets</b> Hema Ravi * Shafkat Aziz Hajam Selma Kopic * Ibrahim Honjo</p> <p>Climate Change: Time to Act</p>  <p>Poetry . . . Ekphrastically Speaking</p> <p><b>The Poetry Posse 2022</b> 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.</p>	<p><b>The Year of the Poet IX</b> December 2022</p> <p><b>Featured Global Poets</b> Elarbi Abdelfattah * Lorraine Cragg Neha Bhandarkar * Robert Gibbons</p> <p>Climate Change Bees, Butterflies and Insect Life</p>  <p>Poetry . . . Ekphrastically Speaking</p> <p><b>The Poetry Posse 2022</b> 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.</p>

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# The Poetry Posse ~ 2023



## January 2023 ~ Featured Poets



JuNe  
Barefield



Swayam  
Prashant



Willow  
Rose



Shabbirhusein  
Jammagerwalla



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