

The Year of the Poet V

September 2018

The Aztecs & Incas



Featured Poets

Kolade Olanrewaju Freedom

Eliza Segiet

Mazher Hussain Abdul Ghani

Lilly Swarm

The Poetry Posse 2018

Gail Weston Shazor * Nizar Sartawi * Hülya N. Yılmaz

Jackie Davis Allen * Caroline 'Ceri' Nazareno

Alicja Maria Kuberska * Teresa E. Gallion

Kimberly Burnham * Shareef Abdur – Rasheed

Ashok K. Bhargava * Elizabeth Castillo * Swapna Behaera

Tezmin Ition Tsai * William S. Peters, Sr.

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inner child press, ltd.

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William S. Peters, Sr.

General Information

The Year of the Poet IV September 2018 Edition

The Poetry Posse

1st Edition : 2018

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WHAT WOULD
LIFE
BE WITHOUT
A LITTLE
POETRY?

Dedication

This Book is dedicated to

Poetry . . .

The Poetry Posse

past, present & future

our Patrons and Readers

the Spirit of our Everlasting Muse

&

the Power of the Pen

to effectuate change!



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

Janet P. Caldwell

Janet Perkins Caldwell

Rest In Peace

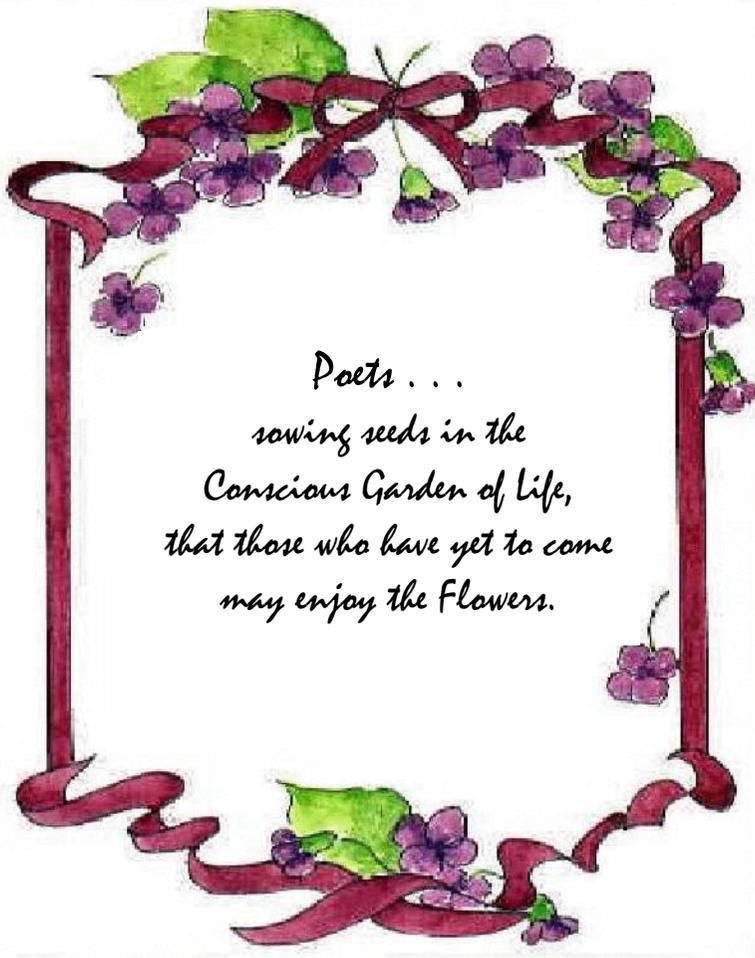
February 14, 1959 ~ September 20, 2016



Rest In Peace Dear Brother

Alan W. Jankowski

16 March 1961 ~ 10 March 2017



Poets . . .
sowing seeds in the
Conscious Garden of Life,
that those who have yet to come
may enjoy the Flowers.

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Foreword

“Time present and time past,
Are both perhaps present in time future ,
And time future contained in time past ,.
If all time is eternally present.
All time is unredeemable”

T.S . Eliot

Literature is a social document and language itself is a value. September months theme is The Aztecs and Incas. They were the most powerful civilisations in pre -colonial Mesoamerica. They were war like people who conquered and controlled Mesoamerican population. They were strongly linked with the politics, Social structure religion, welfare methods of both societies and cultures.

The Aztecs Empire was located in the Central Mexico and Incas ruled in South Mexico 2500 miles territory along the Andes mountain. Aztecs ruled from 1200 to 1522. The Inca Empire was around 1438 to 1532 Aztecs extended towards southwards and Incas were pushing northwards. They spoke Mesoamerican languages

History will remember the Contribution of Aztecs as they developed an accurate calendar, established schools, created bridges to control the island capital together, floating gardens and pyramids. Their doctors learned to set bones and dentists

learned to treat cavities. They had free and mandatory education for girls and boys. Aztecs had the knowledge of stars, planets, Number system based on number 20 i.e. Aqueduct system.

The Incas contributed a royal road network, Postal system for messages, terraced agriculture, beautiful art including metals and ceramics, domesticated the llamas and alpacas. The Incas built Machu Picchu which was voted to be one of the seven wonders of the world to keep records. Inca used QUIPUS which had coloured strings tied to main string.

Inner Child Press International with its mission of building bridges of cultural understanding takes the responsibility for global peace and harmony through poetry, with International festivals and Anthologies. We respect each culture and the lovely creativity of our globally acclaimed contributing poets. Honestly speaking together, it makes a colourful rainbow.

I feel happy for the honour and greater trust that Mr William S Peters, Sr. sir has bestowed upon me by assigning me the responsibility of Cultural Ambassador of India and South East Asia.

A beautiful creative family we all area beautiful planet we have and we have to preserve it for next generation

To end I will refer the quote of the Aztecs

“They tried to bury us
But they didn’t know we were seeds.”

~ **Aztec Proverb**

Yes dear global creative souls ,we are the
seeds.....

Swapna Behera

Author, Educationist

Cultural Ambassador of India and South East Asia
for Inner Child Press International



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



Preface

Dear Family and Friends,

Yes I am excited? Once again, this is an understatement! As we are hitting another milestone, the 9th month of our fifth year of publication . . . I am elated. Our initial vision was to just perform at this level for the year of 2014. Since that time we have had the blessed opportunity to include many other wonderful word artists and storytellers in the Poetry Posse from lands, cultures and persuasions all over the world. We have featured hundreds of additional poets, thereby introducing their poetic offerings to our vast global readership.

In keeping with our effort and vision to expand the awareness of poets from all walks by making this offerings accessible, we at Inner Child Press will continue to make every volume a **FREE** Download. The books are also available for

purchase at the affordable cost of \$7.00 per volume.

In the previous years, our monthly themes were Flowers, Birds, Gemstones and Trees. This year we have elected to take a different direction by theming our offerings after *Cultures* of past and present. In each month's volume you will have the opportunity to not only read at least one poem themed by our Poetry Posse members about such culture, but we have included a few words about the culture in our prologue. The reasoning behind this is that now our poetry has the opportunity to be educational for not only the reader, but we poets as well. We hope you find the poetic offerings insightful as we use our poetic form to relay to you what we too have learned through our research in making our offering available to you, our readership.

In closing, we would like to thank you for being an integral part of our amazing journey.

Enjoy our amazing featured poets . . . they are amazing!

Building Cultural Bridges of understanding . . .

Bless Up

From our house to yours

Bill

The Poetry Posse
Inner Child Press

PS

Do Not forget about the World Healing, World
Peace Poetry effort.

Available here

www.worldhealingworldpeacepoetry.com

or

Janet . . . gone too soon.

<http://www.innerchildpress.com/janet-p-caldwell.php>

**For Free Downloads of Previous Issues of
The Year of the Poet**

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



Aztecs & Incas

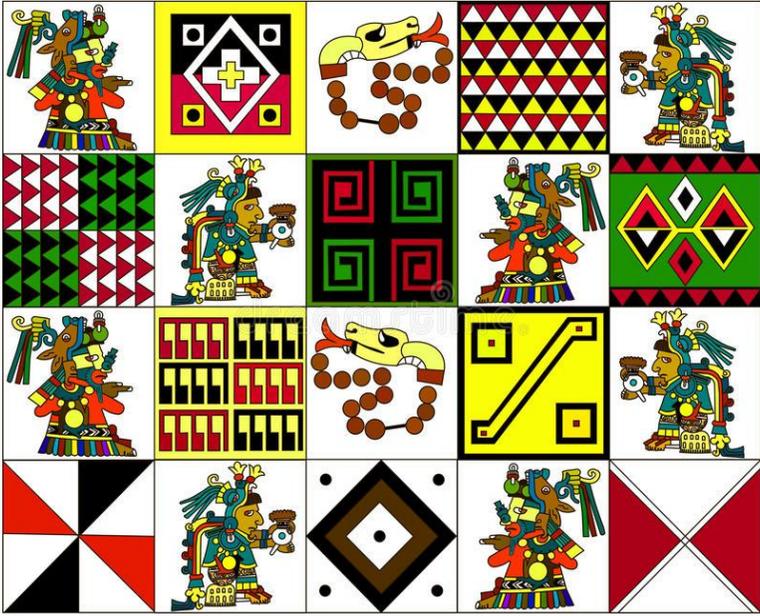


From what little is certain and what we have this learned is that the Aztec and Incan societies were a mystical one. Though much research has been invested in understanding the societal structure which includes their religion, politics, relationships with nature, each other and other cultures, they both remain an enigma to our modern day understanding. They most certainly were a colorful and advanced civilization who seemed to be symbiotically in synch with the cosmos.

For more information visit

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aztecs>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/History_of_the_Incas



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Poetry succeeds where instruction fails.

~ wsp

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.

www.facebook.com/gailwestonshazor

www.innerchildpress.com/gail-weston-shazor

navypoet1@gmail.com

Discard

I threw you away
In an unclear moment
Of false largess
You never have shown
Me the slightest bit
Of favor
And thus I had no need
Of the dust you accumulated
In the far corners
Away from the light
Of my mainstream life
The goings and comings
Became predictable
And though I could have
Examined this phenomenon
Much closer
I dared not
Contrary to the saying
That there is safety in numbers
I feared the numerous happy memories
Tucked in by the
Mothballs
It is in this moment
Of acute vulnerability
That you choose to
Drift across the floor
Leaving a sticky trace on my pants
Even as I reach
To brush you away
I am again struck
By your loveliness
Filtering through my

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Open fingers
I remain resolute
In that I will not be fooled
Again by tinned foiled
Pieces of you
Clinging to the hope
That I might call you
Just this once
By your real name
But even I know
That love don't live here
Anymore

Birds of a Feather

I waited on you
Through dark hours
And sleepless days
When the sun shine bright
Into my foolishness
In thinking that I had met the one
That I had been promised
I wanted him to be my gift
Until I figured out that
He was only preparation
I rubbed alongside
Smoothing edges and angles
And I did not disappear
As I feared I had in the dim times
When it was hard to see
That every beginning has an end
But then you came
And. I was transfixed as I had never known
Nervously practicing the dance
Of long ago courtship
And I know that you understand
The subtlety of expanded plumage
Above gentle steps
Portraying yet betraying
The heat of bright colors
But I wait
Until you have the time
To truly see my display
For it is meant for you.

The Land of Four Corners

In so much as we wander
We remain without borders
Our edges help us to move
The music and math of our essence
Out onto your planes
Spread our wisdom and knowledge
Throughout the world we know
And the world we new
The pieces fit together
Where our tribes meet
And even when you have
Turned the seen edges away
From our historical unity
We still battle with our backs
Legs stretched outward
Held together on spines
Be it Colorado
Or
Machu Picchu
You mistakenly see your cross
And not our battle formation

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Alicja
Maria
Kuberska

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Alicja Maria Kuberska – awarded Polish poetess, novelist, journalist, editor. She was born in 1960, in Świebodzin, Poland. She now lives in Inowrocław, Poland.

In 2011 she published her first volume of poems entitled: “The Glass Reality”. Her second volume “Analysis of Feelings”, was published in 2012. The third collection “Moments” was published in English in 2014, both in Poland and in the USA. In 2014, she also published the novel - “Virtual roses” and volume of poems “On the border of dream”. Next year her volume entitled “Girl in the Mirror” was published in the UK and “Love me” , “(Not)my poem” in the USA. In 2015 she also edited anthology entitled “The Other Side of the Screen”.

In 2016 she edited two volumes: “Taste of Love” (USA), “Thief of Dreams” (Poland) and international anthology entitled “ Love is like Air” (USA). In 2017 she published volume entitled “View from the window” (Poland). She also edits series of anthologies entitled “Metaphor of Contemporary” (Poland)

Her poems have been published in numerous anthologies and magazines in Poland, the USA, the UK, Albania, Belgium, Chile, Spain, Israel, Canada, India, Italy, Uzbekistan, Czech Republic, South Korea and Australia. She was a featured poet of New Mirage Journal (USA) in the summer of 2011.

Alicja Kuberska 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.

The winged goddess

I rise above the limits of imagination,
Soar over the horizon
On the border of the sky, the earth, the sea.
Fear has no meaning for me.

I am no-one and everyone,
Transparent and elusive.

Wind carries me.
It can turn from the light blast into tornado.
I am not a bird, do not break my wings.
There will be forces to cross the skies.

I cut the Gordian knots with a sword
And release myself from the mundane affairs.
I am as an antique Nike

Strawberry cafe

Let's meet on the sheltered path
In our favorite Monet.

I will wear a scarf, close my eyes
And cross over the frame of the imagination.

I'll be by the dark blue trees
On the pink way. You will find me there.

Let's go to another picture.

The tables and chairs are waiting for us,
Dozing in the shade of magic, strawberry trees.

Look! See how easily the ripe fruit hangs
In the strawberry cafe.

I like the taste of champagne
And pale flowers have a shy charm.

A bouquet of violets blooms in your hand.
I'm glad when I can drink in the scent.

An evening full of magic

Story of the coca leaf

The feathered snake abandoned his people.
The words tied in colorful kipu are silent forever.
The jungle took possession of forsaken temples
And the solar glow on the stone walls of Cusco went out.

The dark waters of Lake Titicaca keep whispering the
legend
about Manco Capac, his wife and the hungry of power god-
sun.
Nothing is left, the former world crumbled and has passed
away
The hearts torn from the chests did not beg the predatory
deities

Full of cruelty, greed and rapacity,
The invaders from Spain melted the tears and blood into
gold bars,
And the words about Christian mercy started to sound
derisive.
The merciful bush gave to Incas some relief and oblivion.

Jackie
Davis
Allen

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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 Bachelors 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.

<http://www.innerchildpress.com/jackie-davis-allen.php>
jackiedavisallen.com

The Aztecs and Incas ca 1500s

The Aztec of Mexico and Central America
And the Inca of South America, both
Inheritors of earlier cultural and civilizations
Possessed not the wheel, metal tools
Or animals with which to work the fields

Both of their peoples were dependent
Upon agriculture, maintaining armies
Intent upon killing or taking captives
So as to secure tributes - taxes
Or to serve as human sacrifice

The Aztecs and the Incas were builders
Of bridges, roads; their armies served
To hold their respective empires together
Each worshipped many idols, elevating
In highest esteem, The Sun God

Without a system of money, or banks
The tribute trade, (free market trade)
For the Aztecs was regulated
But for the Incas it was the government
Who distributed most of the tribute goods

Having been conquerers of other empires
In the 1500s the Aztecs and the Incas found
Their long reigns ending when captured
By the catholic Spaniards
Cortes, the Aztec;s Pizarro, the Incas

My Story

Today I'm pausing to reflect
Upon sunny days, cloudy-gray ones, too
Life scenes, the good and the bad, mine
The memory of which, I fear
Is passing by far too quickly

The pages of my book, numerous
Are daringly picturesque, some
Fading a little, they illustrate many
Adventures, my ups and downs
A tale that winds throughout many years

Life's imprint, lest it become too late
I must condense like unto a myth
Selecting words, metaphors, similes
From which I shall choose what
And what not to include

Far more alive, far more
Vibrantly defined are those events that
I'm choosing to hide, secreting them
Beneath the sheets; it is far more safe for me
As well as for the others, to remain anonymous

Rainbow's Desire

Sun greeted the day, her cheeks rosy, blushing
Lifting up her face before an auspicious gathering
She welcomed all, including those
Whom she considered the best of best friends
Long nurtured by love and desire
And inclined to care, patience forgave

Her many indiscretions, only desiring
To bestow love and attention upon her
With anticipation, with expectation
The hands of the clock traced the dial
Like attendants participating in a wedding
The air was thick with fragrance

Strains of music kept step, dancing along
With the muse of serendipity; suddenly
One in virginal, purest white arrived
She joined the party of those adorned
In morning's pink warning, yet lovely
Like pouting posies, their perfume

Made heavy the air, exotically dancing
Alas, patience became a dark groom's tuxedo
And like a jilted suitor objecting, released its fury
Rejected, as in a script, he, nevertheless
Caught the eye of another. With passion rising
He planted on her, the kiss of a rainbow's desire

Tzemin
Ition
Tsai

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The Year of the Poet V ~ September 2018

Dr. Tzemin Ition Tsai (蔡澤民博士) was born in Tzemin Ition Tsai Taiwan, Republic of China, in 1957. He holds a Ph.D. in Chemical Engineering and two Masters of Science in Applied Mathematics and Chemical Engineering. He is an associate professor at the Asia University (Taiwan), editor of “Reading, Writing and Teaching” academic text. He also writes the long-term columns for Chinese Language Monthly in Taiwan.

He is a scholar with a wide range of expertise, while maintaining a common and positive interest in science, engineering and literature member.

He has won many national literary awards. His literary works have been anthologized and published in books, journals, and newspapers in more than 40 countries and have been translated into more than a dozen languages.

Difference

The seeds on rafts made of reeds sprouted
Floating gardens floated around like Chinampas
A bright moon hanging on the treetop
In the dark night
A particularly gory ritual of daily human sacrifice
An integral part of their culture
If the captives' heads were no longer sacrificed
Those lost souls of the losers in Tlatchli
The Aztecs believed in sacrifice of humans

Corn, beans and squash being ingeniously cultivated on
hillside
Water drawn from canals and streams
Terraces carved out of hill sides
Towering like a sculpture
Peace-loving nature
Maintain order in the largest empire in the Americas
Juggling Francisco Pizarro's killing emotions
A technologically advanced frame of The Incas
Approved on the southeast coast of South America

Aztecs vs Incas

Great indigenous civilizations of the new world
With spectacular achievements to their credit
Such a pity
Both were ceased to exist
These civilizations of Native American peoples
Even today
We should marvel at their accomplishments
And give us a fair idea of
Their time in the sun

Singing in the autumn evening

The leaves atop the big Phoenix trees
Half on the ground
Half carried by the wind
It's that slight rain that births homesickness
This drenched soil, so sticky
The reminder of mother's call when I was a child
Far away and clear
The hues that leave the branches
Never truly journey so far away

Autumn rains pass immediately after the autumn winds
The mountains bleed full red
That striking chirping of the cicadas rings from all
directions
Causing the mature millet to nod approvingly
The leaves spike and raise high
But there is no pot of wine for her
The slanting sun heeds no advice
Pleading only with the coolness of that night
Permit me to stay with the flowers
Just a little longer

A Long Way Home

There is one kind of daisy
Her name is Paris
Growing on the rugged hillside paths
A blossoming spray white touched with yellow
That white penetrated the cry of Spring
Forgot all other daisies
All open in autumn
Forgot all other daisies
Not belonging to this rippling before into the summer

There is a cherry
Her name is winter cherry
Growing on the grassland up high in the sky
A blossoming spray white touched with yellow
That white outweighed the winter's freezing
Forgot all other cherries
All show faces in the Spring
Forgot all other cherries
Has already let withered flowers falling all over the ground

Spring
With my heart full of poetic flavor
I went down the ravine
Who cares
That pink mimosa flowers snooping in the breeze
Shy or not shy
After driving the cold gradually away
I only care
Who will
Fill the last mile homeward road with flowers?

Sharæf
Abdur
Rashæd

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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>

indigenous power

history will tell you of it's
participants notable
once ruled long ago
now all just a footnote
barely a memory long ago
thrown from their respective
self-proclaimed lofty thrones

all destined to land on
history's deep garbage
heap of empire/nations,
and their rulers, people used,
abused by them seems to be
the common thread that runs
through, thus still true in this time
that's yours and mine

in one such era that included
an unhealthy dose of fairly
constant terror were the
indigenous empires of Aztec,
also, Inca
Aztec occupied valley of Mexico
including Chalco, Xochimilco,
Atzcapotzalco long ago
try 1250 AD or so ago
they called themselves "Mexica "
pronounced Me'ika
speaking of which had myriad of
gods
they dominated lives
as did their kings

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as did human sacrifice
offerings to please these false
deities
they employed armies
to find and seize those
deemed enemies
took them to be slaughtered
on their bloody alters
this practice was crucial
especially the more bloody, brutal
if their gods were real
they would lick their chops
until the blood flow stopped

of course Aztec life had more
then the use of knives
they were administrators,
artists, painters, builders,
musicians, poets, dancers, farmers
harvested corn, grains, various fruits,
diet included fish etc.
took care of their old, weak, sickly
but that did not impact on brutality
to be a means to supply the many
sacrificed to their false evil deities
a couple hundred years and the
Spaniards appeared and revealed
brutality was not just Aztec property
as they brandished their own brand
to end the Aztec trend finally
in Andes Inca did their
thing in the 15th and 16th centuries
a very sophisticated social/political
administrative system of governing

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centered in Andean mountains called
Cusco now Peru but grew
Ecuador, Bolivia, parts of Argentina,
Chile, Columbia were added eventually
under the rule of a monarchy placed
on a pedestal of divinity
Inka means ruler or lord elite class
had sway their way over millions
until those same Spaniards
shut it down in the 16th century
as the Aztec they also were builders,
architects, farmers, artists, poets, dancers,
warriors etc.
though mortality visits everybody
thus, empires expire regardless
of their desires to go on for eternity

food4thought = education

left..,

sitting in befuddlement
wondering if, when, where
but, always praying away
despair
sooo, so much to ponder
woo, woo must pause under
shade of glorious tree cover
discover composure, take time,
smell rose, recover
compose, write rhyme, prose
it'll be fine to find time
to be a lover
dine on what's divine
pray come day drink heavenly
wine
silver, gold goblets
death, time went away, never
need to stop it
undeserved mercy bestowed
just chill, roll around heaven
sooo nice
ain't you just loving
paradise
won't it be sweet to be in that number
just to sit ponder, wonder and bam
there it is like it always was
memories of other days not even
a fuzz
cause companions of the garden
don't worry 'bout what was
like how long did i tarry in the grave
you! yes you are a forgiven slave

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so just chill forever and a day
no mo worry, anxiety
my lord test me
his undeserved mercy
blessed me, blessed me

food4thought = education

snakes...

showing a\$\$ as they slither
in the grass
no matter how they try to fake
with the phony postures they
take
a snake is a snake is a snake
just like the pit bull's folk get
for protection, intimidation
not just a pet
is their snakes with guns 'n'
badges they hide behind that
come down on people already
in social/economic bind
with evil intent they're sent to
discourage, contain dissent
in their minds
not the same as the people
they're sworn to serve, protect
instead there's
total disconnect in as
far as the human aspect
they look at the faces and don't
see themselves as they do
with the images they relate
to which love, compassion equate
instead it's easy for them to disrespect,
feel hate
fueled by arrogance and the mindless
bias they create
that view me and you as something other
rather than sisters, brothers,

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members of the human race.
is there anything meaner that matches
the demeanor of a cold blooded
snake?

food4thought = education

Kimberly
Burnham

The Year of the Poet V ~ September 2018



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See yourself in the pattern. As a 28-year-old photographer, Kimberly Burnham appreciated beauty. Then an ophthalmologist diagnosed her with a genetic eye condition saying, "Consider life, if you become blind." She discovered a healing path with insight, magnificence, and vision. Today, a poet and neurosciences expert with a PhD in Integrative Medicine, Kimberly's life mission is to change the global face of brain health. Using health coaching, Reiki, Matrix Energetics, craniosacral therapy, acupuncture, and energy medicine, she supports people in their healing from nervous system and chronic pain issues. A current project is taking pages from medical literature and turning them into visual poetry by circling the words of the poem and coloring in the rest—recycling words into color and drawing out the poem.

<http://www.NerveWhisperer.Solutions>
<https://www.linkedin.com/in/kimberlyburnham>

Dawn of Peace

Look to the mountains and the low lands
far in the distance
colors are changing
emotions lifting
shining like the first morning light
rolling across the land
chasing shadows away
in a new era of enlightenment
"alboreaba la paz" in Spanish
peace is dawning
today we possess a new opening

Peace Allinyanakapuy

All in
feel the balance in
“allinyanakapuy” and “allinyuyay”
ending with a celebratory yay
even without the meaning
see power in these Quechua words

Used by Incan shamans
For healing work
through the centuries
dance with the flow
vowels sprinkled between
consonants starting at the beginning
with good in Quechua "allin"

Peace “allinyanakapuy”
conscience “allinyuyay”
diffusing out between
to heal “allinyachiy”
and to recover “allinyay”
ancient words to reconcile
in an early language
celebrated peacefully
by the Incan kings of Cuzco
Peruvian builders of Machu Pichu
and 10 million modern inhabitants
of the South American highlands

Guatemalan Utzil Peace

"Utzil" peace in K'iche'
a Mayan language spoken
in Guatemala
"Ya'ol utzil"
"this is what is going
to bring us peace"

What is it
this "Ya'ol utzil"
do we search every day
for what will bring us peace
it is this
it is here
we just have to see

And then we will have
"uxlanibal"
peace of mind and of the soul
whether at home in Momostenango
Tonicapan
or dwelling around the globe
with "utzil"

Elizabeth
E.
Castillo

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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>

Atahualpa

A great leader of the Incan Empire
Courageous and feisty, Atahualpa
Born in Quito during the time of the Spanish conquest,
Outlying regions he defiantly conquered.

Even Huascar, his brother and his family
Tasted Atahualpa's rage
And in the Battle of Quipanpan
The mighty warrior ran across Francisco Pizarro.

Not an ounce of fear dwelt in the heart of the emperor
Fought in the battle with the small force of Spaniards
Promised to defend his empire, come what may
Though the throne was not rightfully his.

There in the town of Cajamarca
Atahualpa was defeated by the Spanish Pizarro
And that was the sweet downfall
Of the Inca Emperor and his invisible kingdom.

Puzzle

I roamed around the treasure trove,
Before heading to the great Colloseum
Byzantine mosaic art greeted me,
A puzzle-like gallery of eclectic artistry.

Ravenna, ancient city of Italy,
With fields of gold, white doves descending
As cumulus clouds rolled by,
You can't help but solve a puzzle on your mind.

Out in the wilderness, a voice can be heard,
"Al Di La" echoed enthralling the young man
Sought he did to discover the mystery,
Despair he was not but waited for it to unravel.

Even a genius can be left puzzled for a time
When things seem not to make sense,
And everything lost its meaning and its rhyme
But for each labyrinth we are in, an exit is waiting.

Mountain

He admired the distant mountain
With well-crafted peak and curvaceous slope,
Clouds circle the summit while an eagle flies
Hunting for its prey amidst the misty morning.

Omnifold spectacle of what he sees,
Greeneries growing, big roots of trees sneaking
Alabaster skin wrinkled like an old Oak's trunk,
Mountain range heading to the far east.

The steepy hill-in the mid afterglow,
Crickets-sounding through the moonlit night
Fairies-roaming the river,
Mountain-her mystic figure enchants.

Morning dew, tear drops by the mountain,
Rain embraced, as summer dream bids adieu
Distilled silence, nature whispers sweet nothings,
Cold breeze coming, sending shivers to the wild.

Nizar
Sartawi

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Nizar Sartawi is a poet, translator, essayist, and columnist. He was born in Sarta, Palestine, in 1951. He is a member of literary and cultural organizations, including the Jordanian Writers Association (Jordan), General Union of Arab Writers (Cairo), Poetry Posse (U.S.), Inner Child Press International (U.S.), Bodgani (Belgium), and Axlepin Publishing (the Philippines). He has participated in poetry readings and international forums and festivals in numerous countries, including Jordan, Lebanon, Kosovo, Palestine, Morocco, Egypt, and India. Sartawi's poems have been translated into several languages. His poetry has been anthologized and published in many anthologies, journals, and newspapers in Arab countries, the U.S., Australia, Indonesia, Bosnia, Italy, India, the Philippines, and Taiwan.

Sartawi has published more than 20 books of poetry and poetry translation. His last poetry collection, *My Shadow*, was published in June, 2017 by Inner Child Press in the U.S.

For the last seven years, Sartawi has been working on poetry translation from English to Arabic and Arabic to English. This includes his Arabic poetry translation project, "Arab Contemporary Poets Series" in which 13 bilingual books have been published so far. He also has translated poems for a number of contemporary international poets such as, Veronica Golos, Elaine Equi; William S. Peters; Kalpna Singh-Chitnis; Nathalie Handal, Naomi Shihab Nye; Candice James; Ashok Bhargava; Santiago Villafania, Virginia Jasmin Pasalo; Rosa Jamali; Taro Aizu; Fahredin Shehu, and many others.

Death of an Emperor

Chief Inca held the golden cup
as his bartender filled it up
with chicha, brewed by his young acllas,
the pretty virgins of the sun.

With a solemn smile,
the Incan lord of all the lords
tilted the cup
and poured the maize beer on the ground;
and as he did,
the earth/time mother
Pachamama,
muttered with grief:
O death be gentle
with my son!

Then his bartender
filled up the cup a second time
and Atahualpa, Son of the Sun
fixing his eyes on the Andean mountains,
the dwellings of the divine spirits,
sent up the chicha to the sky.
The dampened spirits gazed
at each other
and murmured through their broken hearts:
O death be not unkind to him;
he is the Lover of The Poor!

The third cup he raised
to his own lips
and gulped it down
then asked for more

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and more
and more
that he may commune with the stars,
from whence he came,
and find some favor in their eyes
before convening with the Spanish intruder,
Francisco Pizarro.
The stars,
concealed behind sunlight,
sighed in unison:
Death ease the rope
around his neck!

To his retinue Chief Inca beckoned,
the lords raised up the litter that
carried their Lord
and marched towards
their doom.

Amidst the plaza in Cajamarca
shadows of treachery lay in ambush.
At Pizarro's signal,
the conquistadors rushed at the Incans
like a thunderstorm.
Before nightfall
the unsuspecting Incan lords
were floating on their own blood;
the Incan Chief, was caught alive
and led away in shackles.

Months later
he was sentenced to death
by the garrote.
Seconds before the Spaniards tied the rope

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around his neck,
he raised his head towards the stars
and made as if to speak,
then he stopped short.
nodded his head, and fixed his gaze
at the very land below his feet
“My homeland,” whispered he in prayer,
“From you I came
to you my soul returns,”
and closed his eyes in full surrender.

Tenochtitlan

Hernán Cortés and his companions,
The conquistadors,
were outraged,
O Tenochtitlan,
to see your holy priests
laying their victims on stone slabs,
ribbing apart their abdomens
while they were alive,
extracting their palpitating hearts,
and offering them
to blood-thirsty gods

or flaying them,
wearing their skins,
and chewing their limbs

In retribution, Tenochtitlan,
your people were annihilated,
your homes demolished,
your treasures plundered,
your temples leveled.

O Tenochtitlan,
even from here,
I can hear
your subdued sighs.
Buried deep in lake Texcoco,
beneath the capital of smoke and smog
and grey horizons,
as you moan:
“I am a city more sinned against than sinning.”

Dog Days

Never never date a woman
on dog days
stay away from each other
your hair may look like the devil's own
your eyes a couple of hollow holes
your face a slimy piece of meat
your lips a hoary mass of salt
your hand a slippery rotten fish

And,
worst of all,
your heart a box of cold, dull passion.

hülya
n.
yılmaz

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Born in Turkey, hülya n. yılmaz presently serves as full-time faculty at Penn State and as the Director of Editing Services at Inner Child Press. Her academic publications dwell on literary relations between the West and the Islamic East and on gender conceptualizations within the context of Islam. Dr. yılmaz had her formal initiation as a creative writer in the U.S. Her published works include *Trance* –a tri-lingual book of poetry, *Aflame* –memoirs in verse and *An Aegean Breeze of Peace* –a poem collection she has co-authored with Demetrius Trifiatis. Poetry by hülya appeared in excess of fifty international anthologies.

hülya n. yılmaz, Ph.D.

Links

Personal Web Site

<https://hulyasfreelancing.com>

Personal Blog Site

<https://dolunaylaben.wordpress.com/>

Pachacuti

an Inca Emperor takes the throne
Pachacuti is his name
his rule becomes a legacy
and attains a sizeable fame
for its unrivaled magnitude
as South America's rarity

modern cultural history
traces the Inca back to the 12th century
AD, that is
in the Andes of southeastern Peru
looking from a frozen space in a distance . . .

Manco Capac,
the son of the Inca's supposed creator,
was journeyed by his father, the Sun God Inti
down to Earth

12 million people of a large diversity,
comprising 100 different sets of ethnicity
made up Tawantinsuyu, the Inca state
thus claim the sources of history . . .

using their intellect effectively
helped them survive
a vast amount of misery
they were helpless however
in the face of the worst kind of agony
people in power had waited long enough
time had already passed by too fast
and had traveled away way too far
for them to establish methodically
an all-inclusive tyranny

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there is much more to narrate about the Inca
a huge number of encyclopedias is on e-call
what matters to me though lies beneath the shell
that which i will unearth with vigor oh yes i shall
in fact it is nothing new that i choose to seek
to dare to unbury discoveries is not for the meek
let us go on to play our convenient hide-and-seek

powers-to-be?
today?
no way!

be that as it may
some of us are here to stay
and will turn over the stones for sure
to unravel the treasures of this mystery
then, powers-to-be will be no more
have no dismay!

sun-kissed on Giza Plateau

beat
worn-out
from the heat and awe
waking up from a nap
on a couch in a hotel room
in Egypt on its Giza Plateau
facing the Pyramids
not staged by Hollywood but for real
no sight of the Sphinx
my eyes drooled over before
for i am lying flat and am still
the couch has no pillow-fill
my head might as well be on the ground
exhaustion keeps me from moving about

is this a postcard a dream or am i hallucinating

the wide wall-to-wall balcony window
winks at me as instructed by the Sun
on a tray of bright and hot rays
framed up by the bluest skies

the Pyramids tell me
my post-nap trance is here to stay
while i eye them intently intensely
in quest of an answer to the lore of their lore
nothing speaks back to me of course
all i know is in that which i see

i thus admit to myself
my newly-surfaced gut-instinct:
they may have been soaked by Man's sweat

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but these inconceivable gifts to Earth
surely must have been touched at least once
by gods or goddesses of ancient times
or by the energy of their mightiest god's light

i stop to think and let it all be
while i hold on to my wits with all my might
for one thing is for sure:
this is being one hell of a ride!

boys and soccer in Bethlehem

we just took a short walk
to the hotel across the Wall
a well-to-do tourist trap
with nothing at hand to impress
i had already inhaled the history
all the Graffiti Art represented
on that monument of collective shame
the entire land is a museum a gallery
bearing its all to the visiting-pure at heart
a gift shop? i can do without!
gifts are all around
the children's smiles
their eager words of "Hello"
the warm embrace of their hearts

many boys are before my eyes now
they are playing all kinds of games on the street
where our comfortable hotel is to be found
soccer catch-a-ball bike-tricks
hesitant to look us in the eye at first
but in pure smiles a few minutes later
giggle-like laughs back from our end

how they move about at ease
as were all of their families' trials over
a tragic list of events on the walls of their homes
as profoundly etched in memory
as the Wall of collective shame

oh humanity,
why are you so deep asleep

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while in bed
when awake as well?
take down the walls!
as only you can . . .
open your eyes!
stop seeing selectively!
only united can we embrace ultimate love
not if we take sides electively

oh humanity,
take down all walls of collective shame!
each of us needs love's image alone
in our souls' all-embracing precious frame
from this moment on to everyone's eternity

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Teresa
E.
Gallion

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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>

Machu Pichu

Hiram Bingham found your magnificent masterpiece in 1911

totally hidden from the Spanish Conquistadors for centuries.

A 15th-century Inca sanctuary situated on a mountain ridge 7,970 ft above sea level in the Andean mountains.

You are now a famous archaeological site and one of the most visited tourist attractions in Latin America.

A UNESCO World Heritage site described as an absolute masterpiece of architecture.

Now you find yourself under the threat of being loved to death by the homo sapien masses strolling on your sacred ground. What a testament to the genius of an ancient Incan civilization.

Chance Encounter

We walk across the desert,
wind spreads miniature tornadoes
around our ankles. Tempts us

to pick up the excess baggage
we left behind on our last visit.
We are not immune to surrender.

Habit urges us to hold on
to our comfort scars. But we are
determined to shed skin that holds us back.

The water of life cools necks and backs.
Water bottles pop open to the rhythm of the desert.
The hike leader sounds out the stop command.

A rattlesnake glides leisurely across the sand.
We all hit our brakes as if the police were leading
a funeral procession down the highway.

In the mind meld of this trek someone asks
the question we are all thinking,
Where will this snake's journey end today?

Learning Temple

Each night I lie down to sleep
soul rises from the body, soars to
the temple of purification,
washes in the pool of serenity,
releases cares of the day.

Cruising on the breeze, stars light my way.
My night duty is to eat the fruit of knowledge
that will guide me on my path.

Entering a wisdom temple,
I ingest apples of truth.
Each golden apple opens a window
and I assimilate stories given to me
to carry back to my temporary home.

Ashok
K.
Bhargava

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Ashok Bhargava is a poet, writer, community activist, public speaker, management consultant and a keen photographer. Based in Vancouver, he has published several collections of his poems: *Riding the Tide*, *Mirror of Dreams*, *A Kernel of Truth*, *Skipping Stones*, *Half Open Door* and *Lost in the Morning Calm*. His poetry has been published in various literary magazines and anthologies.

Ashok is a Poet Laureate and poet ambassador to Japan, Korea and India. He is founder of WIN: Writers International Network Canada. Its main objective is to inspire, encourage, promote and recognize writers of diverse genres, artists and community leaders. He has received many accolades including Nehru Humanitarian Award for his leadership of Writers International Network Canada, Poets without Borders Peace Award for his journeys across the globe to celebrate peace and to create alliances with poets, and Kalidasa Award for creative writings.

Vaisakhi – Harvest Festival

One sunny April morning
a balmy breeze caresses
long flowing beards of
the five beloved ‘lions of the pure faith’

Barefoot they walk
city streets in a procession
holding unsheathed swords
in their hands

Clad in robes and bright turbans
they utter holy hymns to herald
the arrival of spring in a land
thousands miles away

As the sun reflects on their swords
they chant with vigour
‘only the pure ones will rule the world’ and
the spectators wonder what did they mean by it?

Mayon

There was no one between us
when you erupted
enraging desires in my heart.
Religion lost its relevance
language became meaningless
as I undressed you.

You fist me in your palm
and like carefree breeze
I crept into your folds.

I reaffirmed my notion
that your body
is home of a Goddess.

Your silent glow
conquered me and escorts me
now through thick and thin.

Mayon – you can lean on me
I know the color of your skin
and the curves of your body.

You & I

When we meet once more
the moon silvers the water
there is beauty to be seen
there are no words to say.

Whole night long
the fires of love bloom
bringing a new dawn
with promises of forever.

My beloved never lies to me
she guards me
as she kisses me
she sings to me. (often sweeter than wine)

Though she's got her secrets
just like I've got mine.

Caroline
'Ceri Naz'
Nazareno

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The Year of the Poet V ~ September 2018

Caroline Nazareno-Gabis a.k.a. Ceri Naz, born in Anda, Pangasinan known as a ‘poet of peace and friendship’, is a multi-awarded poet, journalist, editor, publicist, linguist, educator, and women’s advocate.

Graduated cum laude with the degree of Bachelor of Elementary Education, specialized in General Science at Pangasinan State University. Ceri have been a voracious researcher in various arts, science and literature. She volunteered in Richmond Multicultural Concerns Society, TELUS World Science, Vancouver Art Gallery, and Vancouver Aquarium.

She was privileged to be chosen as one of the Directors of Writers Capital International Foundation (WCIF), Member of the Poetry Posse, one of the Board of Directors of Galaktika ATUNIS Magazine based in Albania; the World Poetry Canada and International Director to Philippines; Global Citizen’s Initiatives Member, Association for Women’s rights in Development (AWID) and Anacbanua. She has been a 4th Placer in World Union of Poets Poetry Prize 2016, Writers International Network-Canada ‘‘Amazing Poet 2015’’, The Frang Bardhi Literary Prize 2014 (Albania), the sair-gazeteci or Poet-Journalist Award 2014 (Tuzla, Istanbul, Turkey) and World Poetry Empowered Poet 2013 (Vancouver, Canada).

Songs For The Aztecs

Hail most revered conquistadors,
the entourage of lords
from the city of ruins,
lauds to you, victorious men
of Mexican coast,
who built premier new world,
where the sweet defeat turns
conquest of civilization.

Granary Of Empirical Voices

I wake up this morning
Hoping to inspire journeys
From my cells, tissues, systems and my whole being
I can feel the platforms of DNA activated,
Forming multiple helixes of Covenant,
In front of the empire of golden spoons,
Feeding us brotherhood without fortification,
When I am handling the coffee mug
I tilt the fabrics of imagination,
Is this a déjà vu so we could turn our lips,
To grains of masterpieces?
Or time for bonfire of no boundaries,
And when we start gathering the grains that we are
It become the noble wildfire,
Where voices blend with vision
Creating zero-dogmatic-bedrocks
Of hearts and souls.

Castling The Aztec Queen

i have come to the four squares
perching the
“ebony and ivory”
the pawns to start
the rooks to go
the knight i have known to last
castling to gain space
doing the Aztecs play
in the safest room
i sometimes forgotten to check
the noblest rationale.

Swapna
Behera

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The Year of the Poet V ~ September 2018

Swapna Behera is a bilingual contemporary poet, author, translator and editor from Odisha, India. She was a teacher from 1984 to 2015 . Her stories, poems and articles are widely published in National and International journals, and ezines, and are translated into different national and International languages. She has penned four books. She was conferred upon the Prestigious International Poesis Award of Honor at the 2nd Bharat Award for Literature as Jury in 2015, The Enchanting Muse Award in India World Poetree Festival 2017, World Icon of Peace Award in 2017, and the Pentasi B World Fellow Poet in 2017.. She is the recipient of Gold Cross Of Wisdom Award ,the medal for The Best Teachers of the World from World Union of Poets in 2018, and The Life time Achievement Award ,The Best Planner Award and The Sahitya Shiromani Award from the Literati Cosmos Society 2018 .She is the Ambassador of Humanity by Hafrikan Prince Art World,Africa 2018 and an official member of World Nation's Writers Union ,Kazakhstan2018. At present she is the manager at Large, Planner and Columnist of The Literati and the administrator of several poetic groups

The Land Of The Four Quarters

Beyond the stones
There is a vibrant life
The signature of blood and sweat
On the grey granite sculpture
Stands Machu Picchu
The citadel
on the mountain top of Andes
A gateway to the celestial body
Surrounded by green terraces and springs
The pillars the Hitching Post of the sun
Indicating two equinoxes
When sun sits
with all his might upon the pillar
As if tied on the rock
The precise indicator ,
Rumbling Urubamba river

Heavy blocks joined together
That never allows the
insertion of a thin knife blade
The Intihuatane stone
Opens the third vision ,
the spiritual world
The Land of four Suyus
Hoists the rainbow flag
For a new lyric and new song ...

Entropy of A Comfortable zone

When cool breeze can inscribe
Birds can twitter
on every window sill
A comfortable zone peeps

When rice bowl curves every stomach
Clouds promise smiles
To every farmer
A comfortable zone smiles

When behind the curtain
There is a picturesque
The comfortable zone speaks

When fragmented land
Unites to make a new map
Every tree stands with head high
A comfortable zone sings

When I Have Nothing To Give You.....

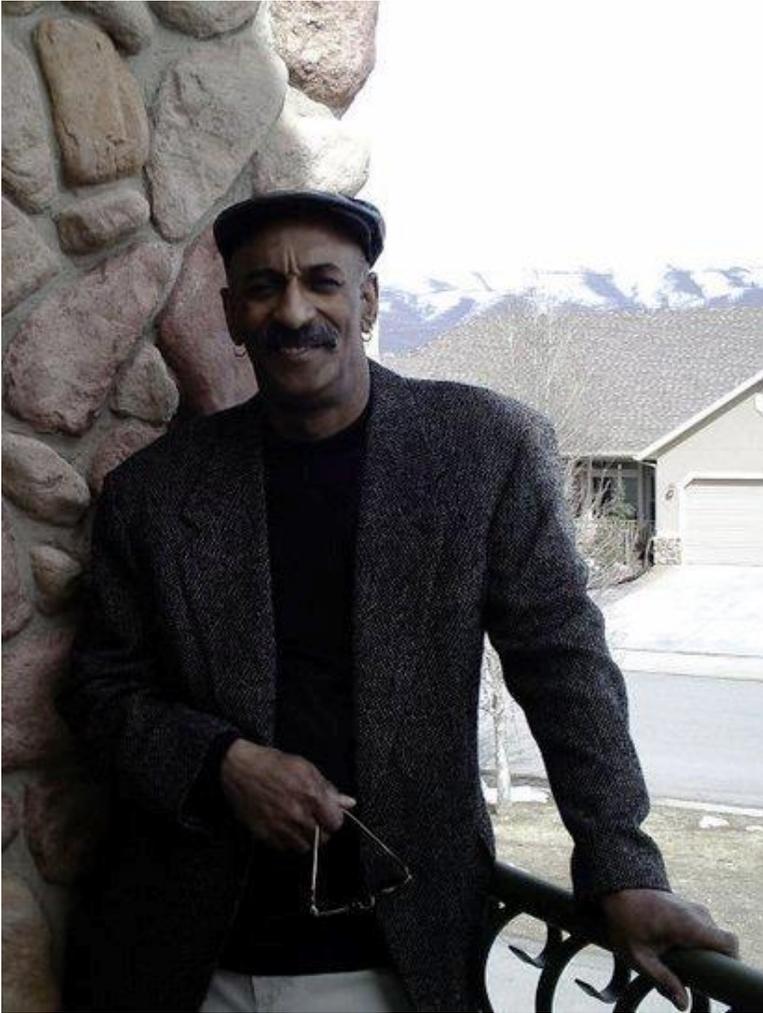
You filled my palm with turbid water
And a chunk of slipping sky
Wings of butterflies
Pinch of pollen grains
Ashes of the chimney
You asked me a life
with visible anecdotes:
Geometrical smiles
Penetrating metaphors
Zephyrs of rhythm
A camouflage story
Where you played off line and on line

Each displacement is a strong Tsunami
Snatching the nipple from a baby
A cold blooded murder , a turbulence
When I shall have nothing to give you
I can only offer fragile sunset on a platter
As I won't have my address or kitchen
The choice will be yours
But believe me
The last supper that I will serve
A new Sun as round as a full stop
Whether you like it not

.....

William
S.
Peters Sr.

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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 40 additional Volumes of Poetry, Short Stories, etc., expressing his thoughts on matters of the Heart, Spirit, Consciousness and Humanity. His primary focus is that of Love, Peace and Understanding!

Bill says . . .

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

to connect with Bill, he is all things Inner Child

www.iaminnerchild.com

Personal Web Site

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Indigenous

We stood upon the mountains
And communed with the heavens
And spoke to Gods

We built Pyramids
We had medicine
Before it had a name

We were civilized
Before the caves of western mankind
Were abandoned

We understood nature
And what it required of us

We witnessed ships come
From celestial places,
Spaces
Beyond your imaginations
As we looked upon the faces
Of Creators
Within every dimension
And beyond

You can not know us,
But we know of you

We await your ascension
To your ancestral home
Where you too
Were once
Indigenous

Listen O Ear

The land that I love
From whence my spirit
Received its education
I leave behind,
But for a while

Loved ones embrace
Lingers in my being-ness,
As I carry the torch
Forward,
To other lands

The skies beneath my wings
Salute my departings
And my arrivals,
For with me I carry memories,
And stories
I am charged
To share

Listen O ear,
That of the stranger,
My new brother
And sister
I have a wonder
Of lands afar
To gift unto you
Can you not see
The glint in my eye,
And the brilliance
Of my anticipatory smile

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Listen O ear,
As I tell you of
Our Creator's grandeur
And the landscapes
Thy hast sculpted
For thine providence

Listen O ear,
As the whispering kisses
Of lore and magnificence
Touch thy inner ear
With an Angelic Art
That inebriates
Ones soul

Listen O ear
For there is much
To tell,
But worry not,
For eternity is ours

Journal for sale

Upon the planning
Of our extensive touring,
Journals were purchased
To note the nuances,
The experiences,
The people,
The places,
Of our travels

The diligence,
Discipline,
Discipleship required
Can be daunting,
Recording these things

Me, I would rather
Write poetry,
And let my words dance,
Sing,
Dance,
Sing,
Dance,
Sing
In the potential
That is unbounded,
Unbinded,
Untethered,
Triggering wonder
In the minds,
Spirits
And hearts
Of the ambivalent readers
Of my wandering verse

The Year of the Poet V ~ September 2018

I would rather be loosed
That imprisoned
By the task
Of such things

Journal for sale ...
I am writing poetry!

September

2018

Features

~ * ~

Kolade Olanrewaju Freedom

Eliza Segiet

Mazher Hussain Abdul Ghani

Lilly Swarm

The Year of the Poet V ~ September 2018



Koladę
Olanręwaju
Fręedom

The Year of the Poet V ~ September 2018



The Year of the Poet V ~ September 2018

Kolade Olanrewaju Freedom was born in the early '90s in Osogbo, Osun State. In 2013, he was selected as a Pentasi B. World Featured Poet, an international honor based in the Philippines. He is also the winner of first edition of UK's Write, Share, Be Read Poetry Contest. He is the moderator of PIN Annual Food Poetry Contest and the editor of PIN Quarterly Journal. His works have appeared in various anthologies and literary journals.

Kolade has authored two poetry collections 'The Light Bearer' and 'Punctured Silence'. He currently studies Communication & Language Arts at the University of Ibadan while also serving as the Chief Operating Officer of Words Rhymes & Rhythm.

LINKS

<http://worldpoetry.ca/?tag=kolade-olanrewaju-freedom>
<https://www.facebook.com/kolade.olanrewaju>

Take My Hands

Take my hands,
let's walk down this lane
with our hearts entangled
like a knot carelessly made.

Take my hands,
let's dance to the beat
of our feelings in the dance room
of affection gravely craved.

Take my hands,
and let go of the fears
taming your roving soul;
we rip apart the dread.

Take my hands,
let's walk into the heavens
without our eyes shutting
like a door weary of entry.

Take my hands,
while this storm rages
to silence our quaking emotions;
let's bury ourselves
in noisiness of togetherness.

Take my heart in your hands,
yours in mine, in a tight grip;
be grey-haired, wrinkled all over
but never flatten your palms...

BLANK

A blank page with a questioning look sits
atop my restless lap, athirst of the blood
which once flowed through the pathway
of a concave formed by the melting
of the softness of my thumb
into adjoining fingers...

Each word, like a babe, stands to fall,
falls to stand, stands to fall, falls to stand,
creating cracks on the surface of a paper
about to be yanked, crushed and aimed
at the hollowness of an overfed bin...

Whilst minutes are absorbed into the grandness
of hours, the day wears its night gown, leaving me
to find the path to a home long abandoned in the forest
of memories submerged in the noisiness of silence...

AREWA

Arewa,
your beauty is a blade cutting deep into
the fleshiness of my muse, to draw blood
plastering crispy papers with fine layers of
words refined in the industry of infatuation.

Arewa,
your beauty is that of the departing sun
radiating its elegance through waters
basking in the calmness of the young nights
unworried by alarming approach of darkness.

Arewa,
your beauty is a poet versifying moments spent
under the shade of a tree, under endless canopies
of skies deserted by stars because you were
the star for the night – the supreme beauty.

Arewa,
your beauty exists on the glossiness
of a paper traced with impatient hands
held captive by locks whose keys are kept
in the safe of your candid eyes...

Arewa,
your beauty is an inhaler to my asthmatic needs,
a pore space on my tongue sinking prodigious
wants into the abyss of contentment. Your beauty
is a restaurant where admiration freely dines...

Arewa,
your beauty is a creaking bed suffering
under the weight of a thousand admirers
tossing coin-like desires within confines
of a heart pleading for a victorious head.

The Year of the Poet V ~ September 2018

Arewa,
your beauty is an ointment flowing
from the base of your brain
to the base of your fleeting feet. Your beauty
is a creation of the seventh day.

* *Arewa* – a Yoruba word which means the beautiful one.

The Year of the Poet V ~ September 2018

Eliza
Søgiæt

The Year of the Poet V ~ September 2018



The Year of the Poet V ~ September 2018

Eliza Segiet – Master's Degree graduate in Philosophy, completed postgraduate studies in Cultural Knowledge, Philosophy, Arts and Literature at Jagiellonian University, as well as Film and Television Production in Lodz.

Author's poem "Questions" was the Publication of the Month (August 2017) and the International Publication of the Year (2017) in Spillwords Press

Author of The Month of January/February 2018 in Spillwords Press

Laureate of the International Special Prize "Frang Bardhi – 2017"

Author's works can be found in anthologies and literary magazines in Poland and abroad (Albania, Australia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, India, Canada, Kosovo, Singapore, Scotland, Sweden, USA, United Kingdom).

Side of Life and Death

People on the right,

Jews on the left.

Her sister was caught into the wagon,
they wanted her too.

She fled between
the Gestapo's widely spaced legs.
She ran home.

Dad, daddy,
they hid Krysia on the train.
Take her.

He redeemed his daughter.

It's nothing that now
it won't be enough for bread.

Chase

I'm racing with death,
it chases me, stops me,
stings every hour.

I'm racing with time.
Not just mine.

Children. Children.
They have short steps.

Maybe
with human help
it will be possible to overcome
the planned annihilation?

Saddle-Cloth

Yesterday I was in Lodz with my friends
today I know
that only in dreams I can meet them.
Yesterday I dreamed of factories
today I know
that they sew German uniforms.

Yesterday I drove a cab
today I know
I must be stronger
than the horse that pulled it.

Yesterday I slept
in starched bedding
today
my wooden cot is covered with saddle-cloth.

Yesterday was a phantasm
today
only the belief
that in people
will remain something of a Human.

Mazher
Hussain
Abdul
Ghani

The Year of the Poet V ~ September 2018



The Year of the Poet V ~ September 2018

Mazher Hussain Abdul Ghani from Pakistan, is a Poet, teacher and councilor. He has master degree in English language and literature from Punjab University of Pakistan. Since 7 years he is utilizing his experience in teaching English as a second language in international schools and private institutions. Currently he is working in Riyadh Saudi Arabia. The world in which he was born and brought up inspired him to work for humans welfare and excited his soul to dwell deep into the seas of ecstatic words and realms of spiritual poetry. He has published his poetry book (Enchanting Verses of Love) which is a collection of love and spiritual poems.

Mazher Hussain Abdul Ghani is a member of World Union of Poets, Pentasy B World poetry and friendship group. On social media he has been emerged as a prominent love Poet, by participating and winning several competitions. He was awarded from different institutes as a Poet and humble worker of peace and humanity. He is been working on different peace projects locally and internationally. His work and efforts had been recognized.

Mazher Mazher
mmazher44@yahoo.com

A Prayer for Peace

All glory to you, O omnipotent, to you alone, the most high
Give us light, ray of peace and purity from the generous
skies and great splendour

We, children of earth are being tossed among the squalls
and gales

The wind of pride and jealousy blows us to the rocks of
tribulation

O beloved God, protect us, as we find no other shelter for
peace

We are sickened by the dangers of wars and terror

The loathsomeness of sadness and despair deprived our
souls

We mortal human beings can't escape from the fears of sins
and death

O divine Master, bless us the showers of peace from thy
infinite blessings

The heart of mother earth is dried, it quench the thirst from
our bloodshed

Innocent souls are burned stupefied, dying with thirst,
hunger and pain

Some are weakly whimpered until they left bled to meet the
death

O The Mightiest, earthly souls are longing for the
splendour to annihilate their insubstantial state

Peace and love are your traits, lit that fire to burn the heart
of the universe

Assail these countless groans to skies, and shower the rain
of happiness

Shed away this moonless night, and open the bright light to
ignite our inner core

The Year of the Poet V ~ September 2018

O the Compassionate, the most Merciful, You are the Ruler
of the judgment day

It's You that we worship, and to You we appeal for help,
show the right way that leads to glory

O the Sacred one, teach us love, compassion and honour
Heal the wounded earth, and bless us that pure soul to heal
each other

O the holy One, fulfil our desires to see the peace, love and
contentment

Let's eradicate the evil, seeds of greed and lust from the
soul of mother earth

This tattered face of humanity wants to see the radiant and
sunshine

Lift this darkness of terrorism away, and purify the souls
with the nectar of peace.....

A sonnet on Shakespeare

You the great composer of the mysteries of love
You own and master the art of playwriting

You perfumed the seasonal love, glorified nature in your
poetic conventions

Summer's solstice, spring's equinoxes, conceit and fanciful
comparisons.

Thy art, marvelous, O great painter of imagination and
reality

Your characters manifest the stream of life with gratitude

The envies, jealousy, and dearest love in Othello

The literary murmurs of romance and eternal love of
Romeo and Juliet.

You described your ruminations and bereavements through
your characters

Failed loves, bitterness, tenderness and lovers shielding
beloved

Your tales of love are immortal and written in the stars

You painted the images of Autumn, twilight, ruins and
dying fires.

The yearnings of young lovers, fading beauty in damsel of
love poems make your work inspiring forever

You idealized the definition of love, the contentment of
lovers and eternal beauty.

Land of Pharoahs

O majestic land of Pharoahs,
My heart overjoyed to pay a tribute to your glory
You, the mother of history
From your sacred bosom you born
The invincibles, the fearless warriors, who marched across
their territories to conquer the world
The historians, who mortalized the entities
Time has drawn the figures, Moses the prophet, the
custodians of pyramids, Sphinx the strange creatures
Unsung heroes, rebel aliens and wingless sparrows
Those royal camps, rectangular shaped, insidious Pharoahs
reigning death
Temples of great prides sing the songs of immortality
The images of eternity imprinted on the walls of time
And stories of ancient lives are treasure stored in the caves
of mystery
Three sides by a row of shields
Still surmon the royal entrances of Rameses
The sounds of carried away chariots and the art of
blacksmith
Your songs shall remain evergreen
In the hymns of Mariette, in Ozymandias and Egyptian
Iliad
In the lanes of Cairo, sighs and sobs are buried
Yet, fate casts the spells of magic to show the certainties of
change
The infant's smile spreads the bounties of love
Our souls reside in the abode of ancient paradise
Every image narrates its own tale, the tales which are
written in the stars
O holy land, your divine songs enchant souls, and will be
sung forever.

The Year of the Poet V ~ September 2018

Lily
Swarm

The Year of the Poet V ~ September 2018



The Year of the Poet V ~ September 2018

Lily Swarn is an award-winning Indian bilingual poet, writer, columnist, and editor. She is a gold medalist, Panjab University Colour holder for Histrionics and Dramatics, recipient of Reuel International Prize for poetry, Global poet of Peace and Universal Love, Global Icon of Peace Nigeria, Frang Bardi International award For poetry, diploma for Best Poet Award Temirqazyq Awarded trophy for Woman of Substance, and an Icon Award on Chandigarh Establishment Day. Her poetry has been featured in many International anthologies. She published one poetry book, *Trellis of Ecstasy* (2017) and a book of article, *Lilies of the valley* (2017). Her poetry has been translated into numerous European and Asian languages

Link:

<https://www.facebook.com/lily.swarn>

Email:

Sukhish83@gmail.com

Thank God I Am A Woman

A Rubik's cube
That God created
Rubbing his hands with glee
A Venus statuesque
Curvaceous, mysterious
Unfathomable
Myriad facets intricately woven
In silky brocade with gossamer golden threads on a hand
crafted wooden loom
In the by lanes of Varanasi.

Compassionate, tender, like the insides of a baby coconut,
Dripping the snowy milk of human kindness
From her crystalline, benevolent heart
Honey tempered, hushed, dulcet tones
Muffled and snubbed by masculine brute force
Formidable reserves of patience tucked away
Beneath mushy sentiments
Heaving bubbling emotions
Frothing like Macbeth's witches cauldron
Squandered away on insensitive souls

A veritable "Durga", the next moment!
Ferocious female of the species
More deadly than the male!
Tempestuous, turbulent, dancing the "Tandav"
Often astride a roaring lion
Eyes ablaze, arms akimbo
Suave, untamed, feral, searing
Quite unlike Katherine the shrew
Who could easily be cowed down.
Well, Shakespeare could falter too!!

The Year of the Poet V ~ September 2018

The Diva, coquette, witch, muse
Both the tormenter and the
tormented
The mother , danseuse, goddess, home maker
And the bread winner! The proverbial cash cow!

The hues of love
The shades of godliness
Up with the lark
Busy as a bee

Woman, thou art Magnificent!
Thank God, I am a woman!!

Aphrodite

Hail Aphrodite
Alluring Venus of April
Bunches of cherry blossoms
Secretly shielding sensational sensuality
Hypnotism oozing from your
Voluptuous curves
Married off to Hephaestus
Myrtle, doves,
horses and swans you adore
Pleasure and procreation follow in your wake
You beloved of Adonis

The hills are alive to the music of the daisies
Fields of dancing poppies, scarlet red
Dot the creamy butter cup yellow of the narcissus
Moss green meadows whisper to the winds
Their ardent desires to capture Spring
And never let it go!
The sweet pea embraces the tall grass in a vice like grip
darting furtive glances like a suspicious wife
The trees sprout tender tendrils of lemon green
Satiny leaves open their hearts
like ardent lovers
waiting for the blissful April showers!

The corn flower blue of the yearning sky beckons a darting
sea gull
She swoops down to kiss the foam
Of the gushing seductive ocean
Flamingoes preen and strut around
Parading their flamboyant attire
Woodpeckers knock perseveringly

The Year of the Poet V ~ September 2018

For Spring's treasure trove to open
Come Aphrodite with your magnetic
Powers of attraction
Take us to realms of peace and love
Where no life however small, suffers!

Weary Warrior

Come home please
You weary warrior
The bell tolls for you
The bread is baking
In the oven
The strawberries are ripe
Life is lush and luscious
You missed out the summer
When the wine was being mulled
And the cow bore a calf
You were not there my soldier
For the war never seems to end
I prayed for peace today
With my eyes towards the sky
I think I heard A rumble
It's peace on its way!!
Come home O weary warrior
It's peace once again!

Inner Child Press

News

The Year of the Poet V ~ September 2018

We are so excited to announce the New and upcoming books of some of our Poetry Posse authors.

On the following pages we present to you ...

Jackie Davis Allen

Gail Weston Shazor

hülya n. yılmaz

Nizar Sartawi

Faleeha Hassan

Caroline 'Ceri' Nazareno

William S. Peters, Sr.

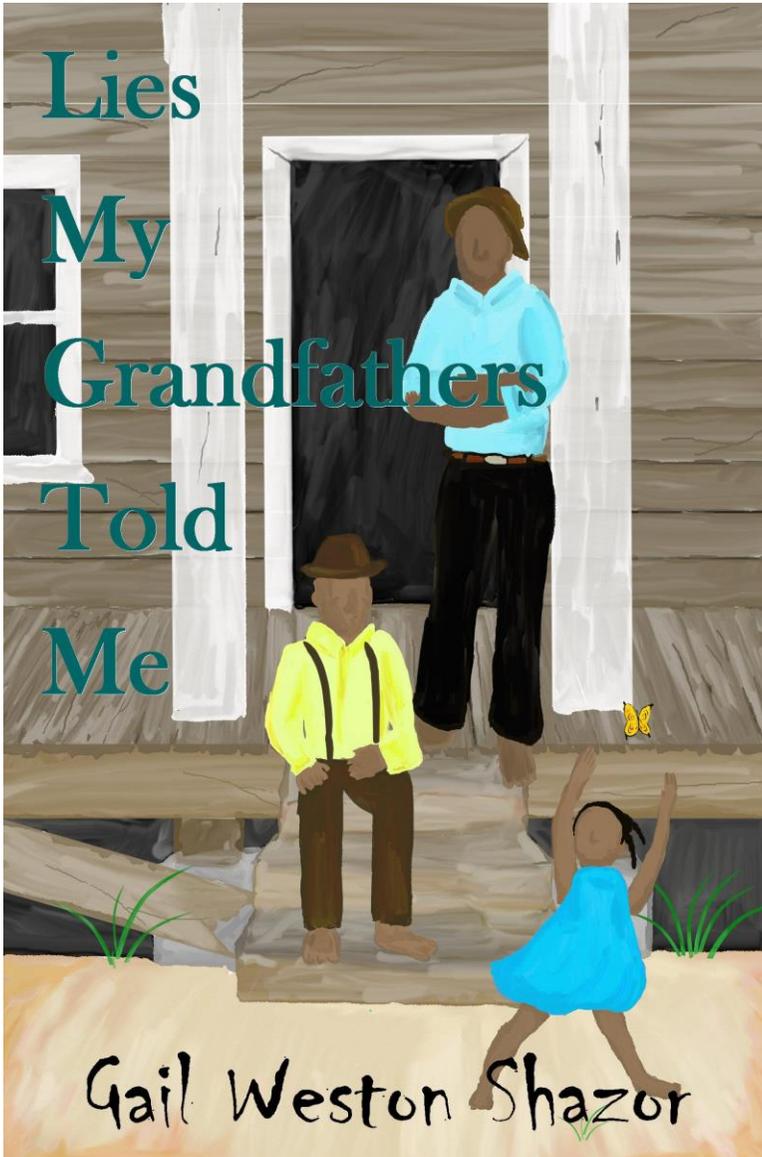
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Aflame



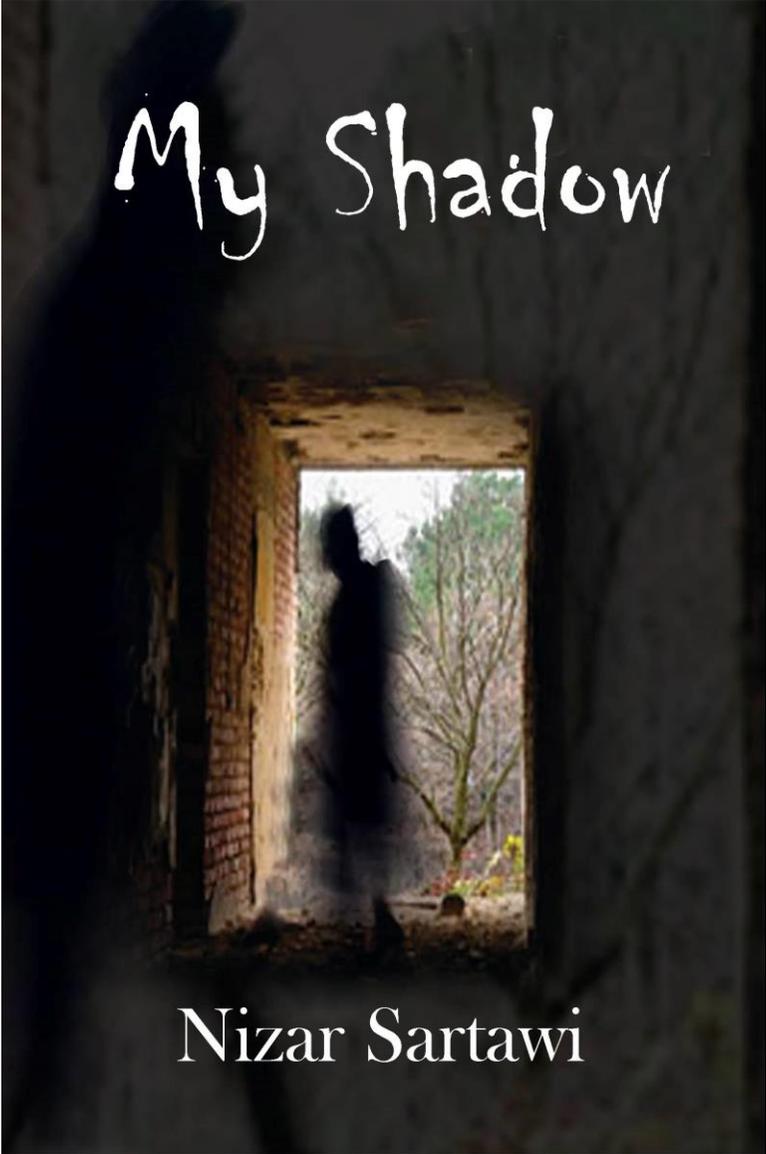
Memoirs in Verse

hülya n. yılmaz

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My Shadow



Nizar Sartawi

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Breakfast

for

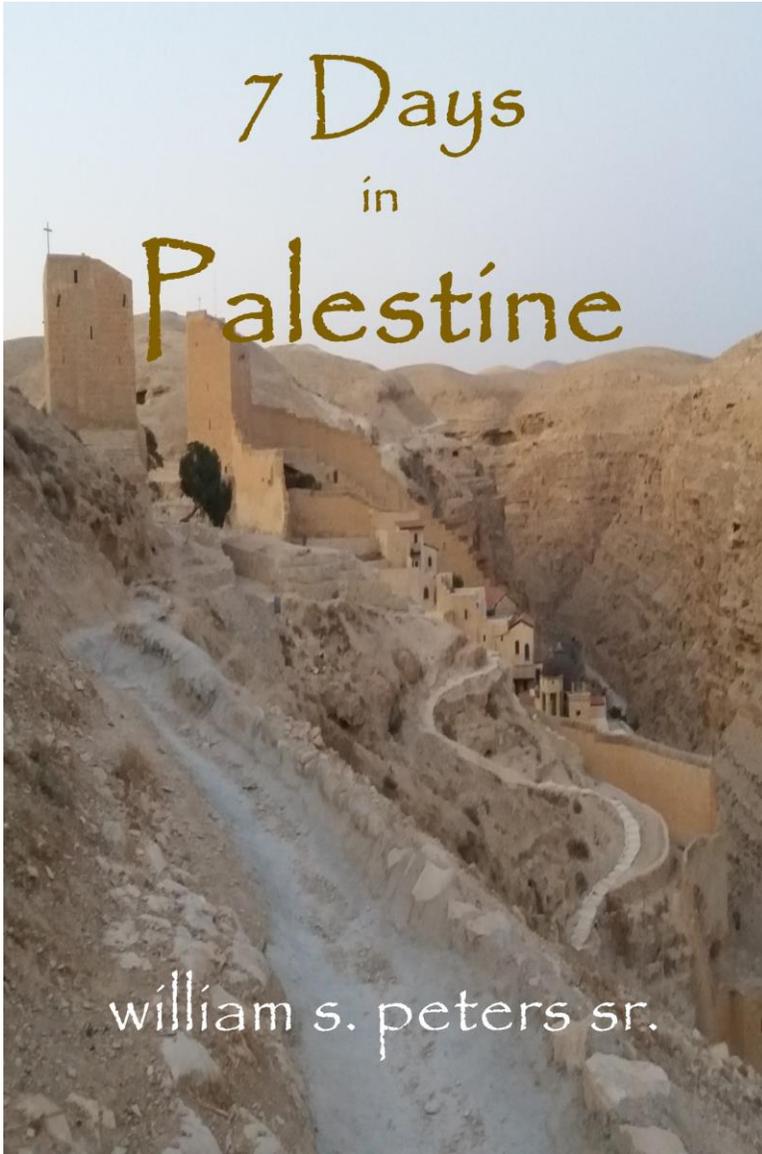
Butterflies



Faleeha Hassan

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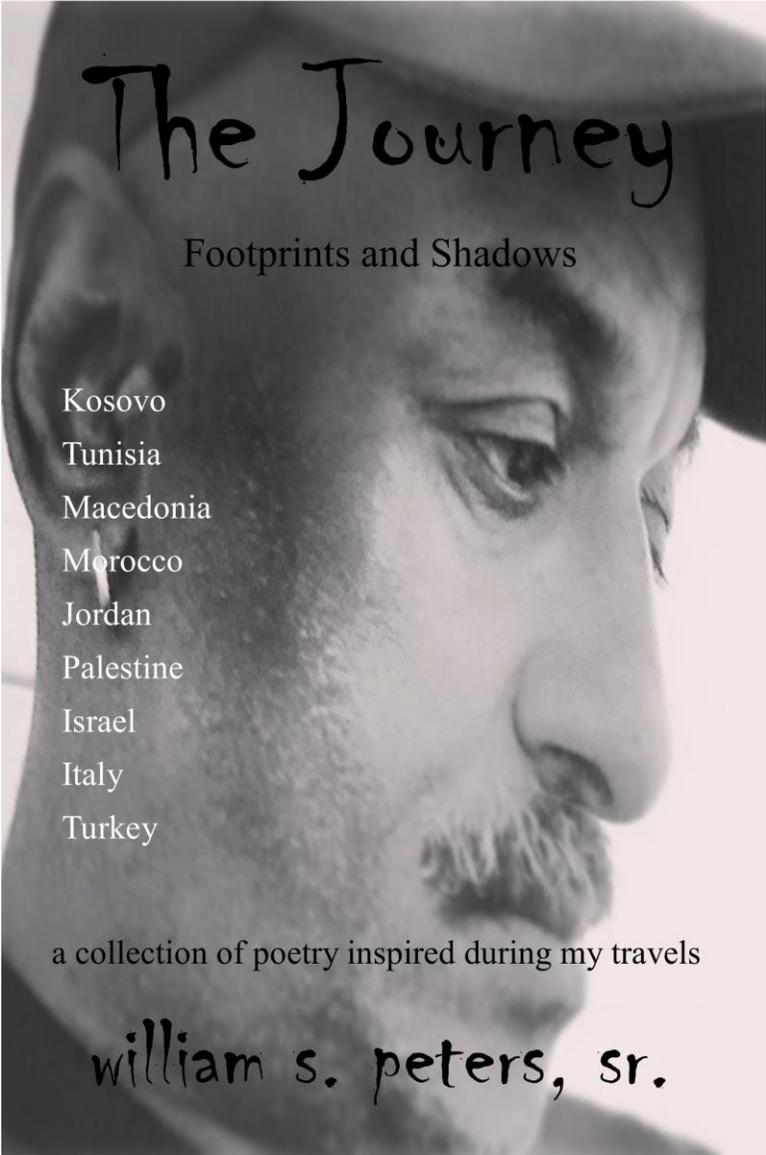
Tunisia My Love



william s. peters, sr.

The Year of the Poet V ~ September 2018

Coming in December of 2018



The Journey

Footprints and Shadows

Kosovo

Tunisia

Macedonia

Morocco

Jordan

Palestine

Israel

Italy

Turkey

a collection of poetry inspired during my travels

william s. peters, sr.

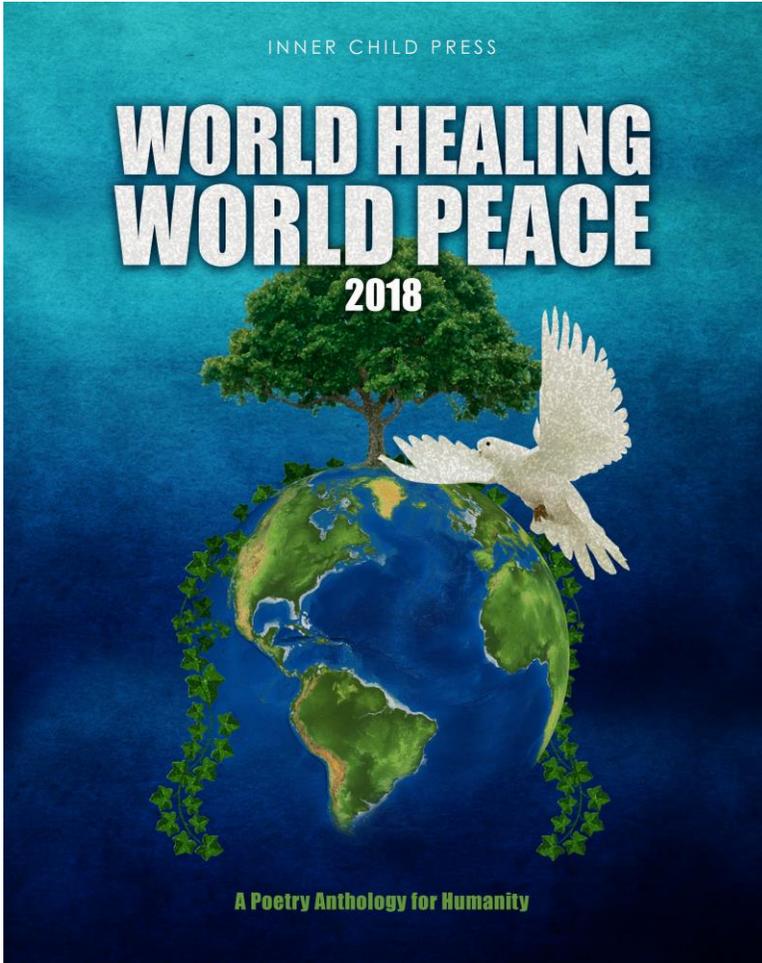
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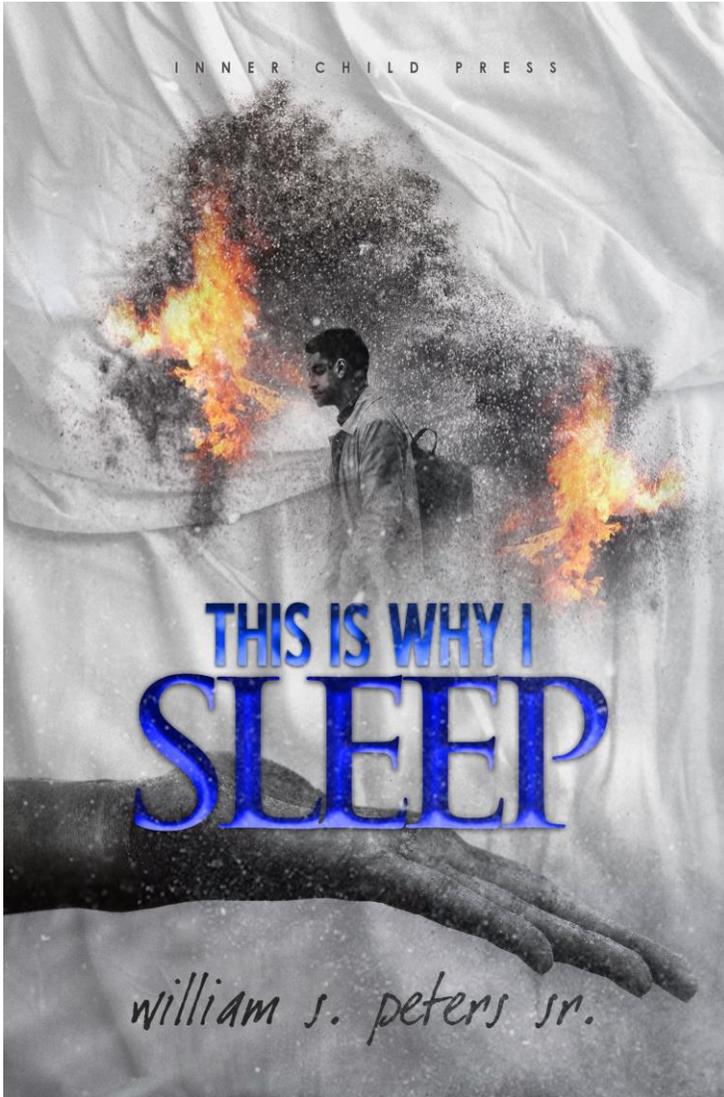
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Inward Reflections

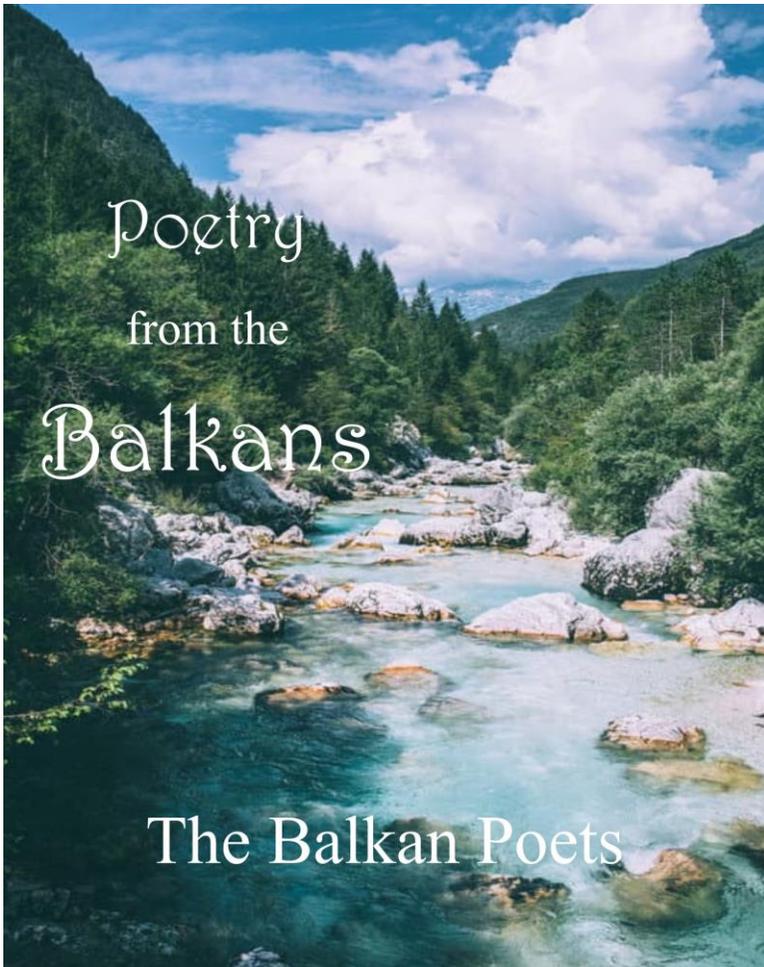


Think on These Things
Book II

william s. peters, sr.

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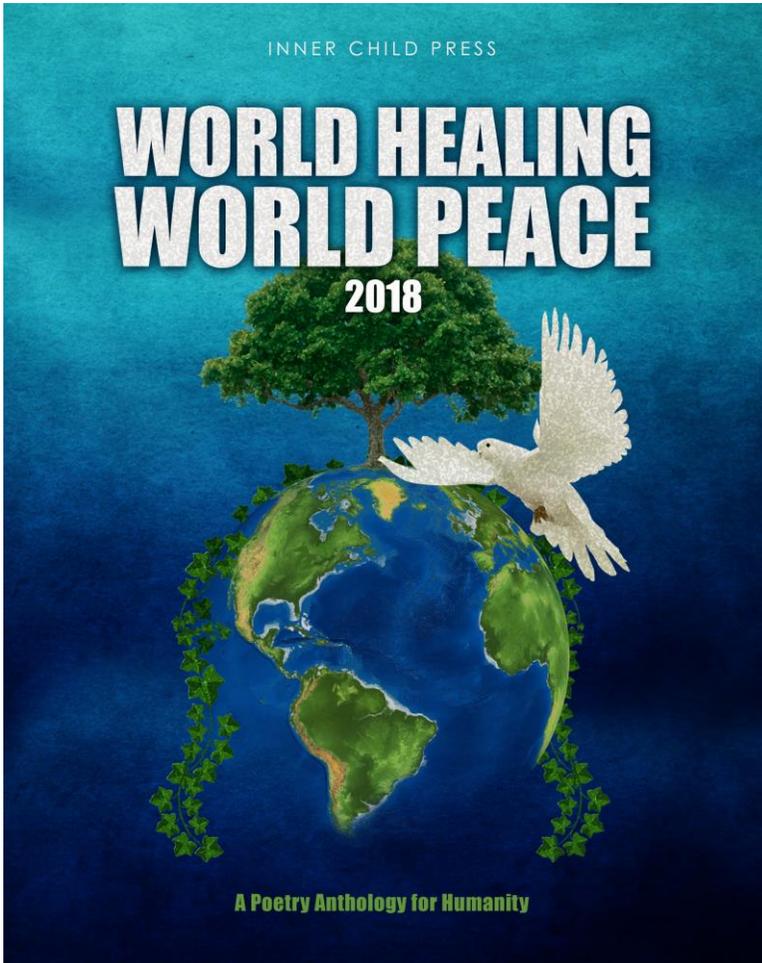
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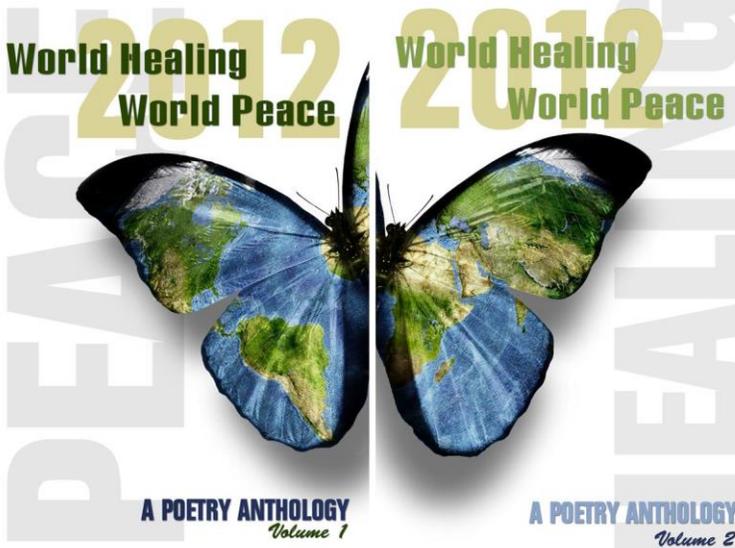
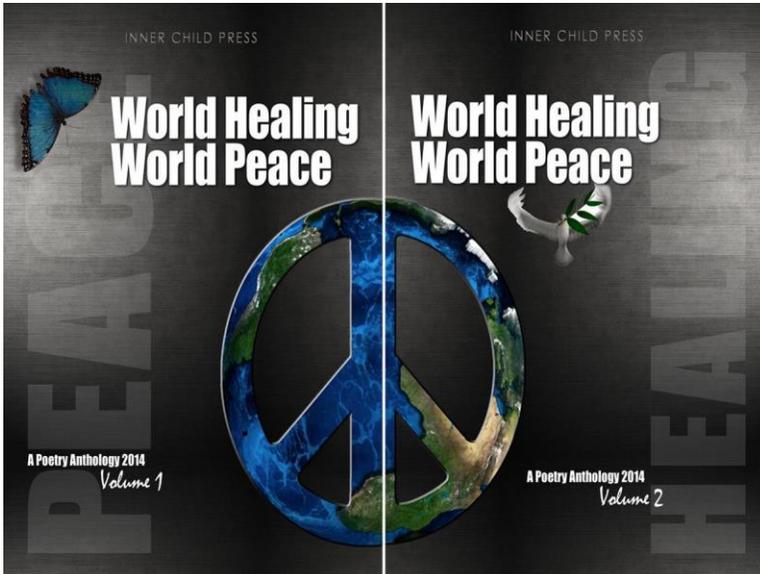
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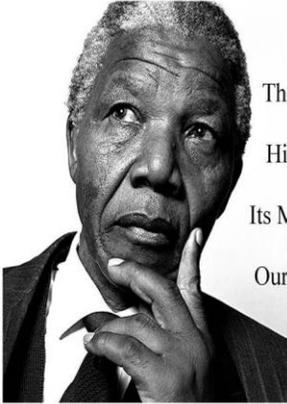
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Mandela



The Man
His Life
Its Meaning
Our Words

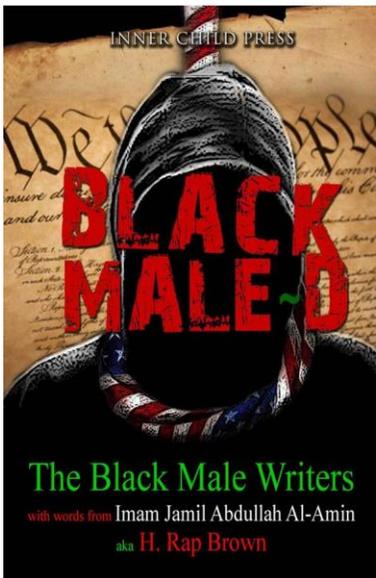
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The Anthological Writers

A GATHERING OF WORDS



POETRY & COMMENTARY
FOR

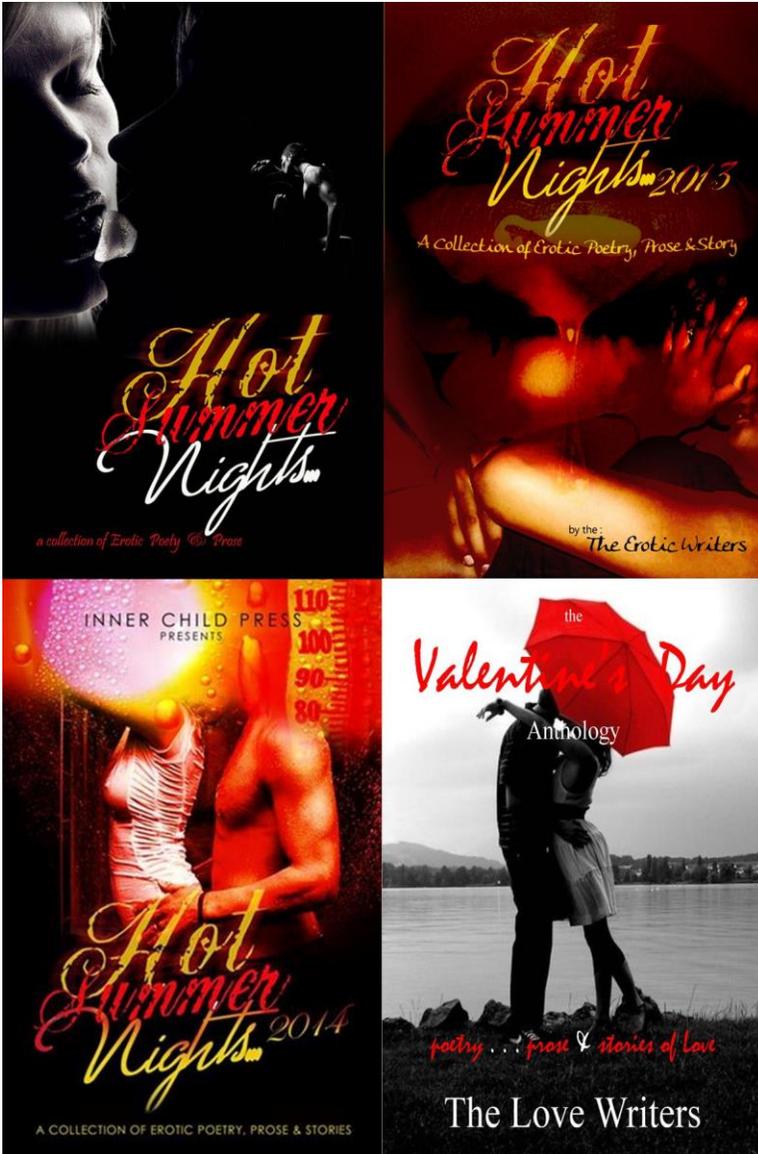
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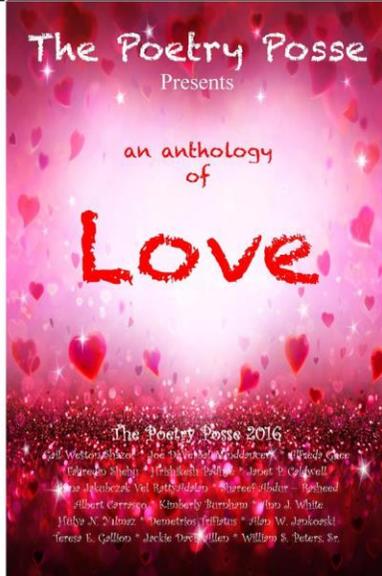
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a collection of the Voices of Many inspired by ...

Monte Smith

a collection of the Voices of Many inspired by ...



Monte Smith

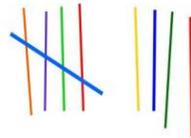
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11 Words



(9 lines ...)

for those who are challenged

an anthology of Poetry inspired by ...

Poetry Dancer

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The Year of the Poet

January 2014



Carnation

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Siddhartha Beth Pierce
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June 'Bugg' Barefield
Debbie M. Allen
Tony Henninger
Joe DaVerbal Minddancer
Robert Gibbons
Neeetu 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

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Shareef Abdur-Rasheed
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Our February Features
Teresa E. Gallion & Robert Gibson

the Year of the Poet

March 2014



daffodil

The Poetry Posse

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Albert 'Infinite' Carrasco
Siddhartha Beth Pierce
Janet P. Caldwell
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Debbie M. Allen
Tony Henninger
Joe DaVerbal Minddancer
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Our March Featured Poets
Alicia C. Cooper & Hülya Yılmaz

the Year of the Poet

April 2014



Sweet Pea

The Poetry Posse

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Gail Weston Shazor
Albert 'Infinite' Carrasco
Siddhartha Beth Pierce
Janet P. Caldwell
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Debbie M. Allen
Tony Henninger
Joe DaVerbal Minddancer
Robert Gibbons
Neeetu Wali
Shareef Abdur-Rasheed
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Our April Featured Poets
Fahredin Shehu
Martina Reisz Newberry
Justin Blackburn
Monte Smith

celebrating international poetry month

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May 2014

May's Featured Poets
ReeCee
Joski the Poet
Shannon Stanton



Dedicated To our Children

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Albert Infrink Carrasco
Siddhartha Beth Pearce
Janet P. Caldwell
June Bugg Barefield
Debbie M. Allen
Tony Hanninger
Joe DeVerbal Mindlancer
Robert Gibbons
Neehu Wali
Shareef Abdul-Rasheed
Kimberly Burnham
William S. Peters, Sr.

Lily of the Valley

the Year of the Poet
June 2014



Love & Relationship

Rose

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Albert Infrink Carrasco
Siddhartha Beth Pearce
Janet P. Caldwell
June Bugg Barefield
Debbie M. Allen
Tony Hanninger
Joe DeVerbal Mindlancer
Robert Gibbons
Neehu Wali
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The Year of the Poet
July 2014

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



The Poetry Posse
Jamie Bond
Gal Weston Shazor
Albert Infrink Carrasco
Siddhartha Beth Pearce
Janet P. Caldwell
June Bugg Barefield
Debbie M. Allen
Tony Hanninger
Joe DeVerbal Mindlancer
Robert Gibbons
Neehu Wali
Shareef Abdul-Rasheed
Kimberly Burnham
William S. Peters, Sr.

Lotus
Asian Flower of the Month

The Year of the Poet
August 2014

Gladiolus



The Poetry Posse
Jamie Bond
Gal Weston Shazor
Albert Infrink Carrasco
Siddhartha Beth Pearce
Janet P. Caldwell
June Bugg Barefield
Debbie M. Allen
Tony Hanninger
Joe DeVerbal Mindlancer
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Neehu Wali
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August Feature Poets
Ann White • Rosalind Cherry • Sheila Jenkins

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Aster Morning-Glory



Wild Garden of September Birthday Flower

September Feature Poets

Florence Malone • Keith Alan Hamilton

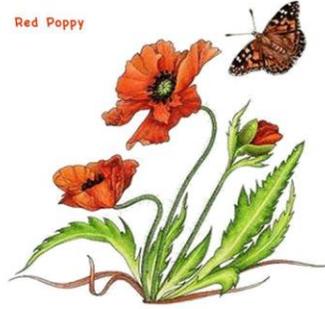
The Poetly Pass

Jamie Bond • Call Weston Shazor • Albert In'Wit'le Carrasco • Siddhartha Beth Pierce
 Janet P. Caldwell • June Bugg Barefield • Debbie M. Allen • Tony Heninger
 Joe DiVerbal Winddancer • Robert Gibbons • Neetu Wolf • Shereef Akbar-Rasheed
 Kimberly Burriham • William S. Peters, Sr.

THE YEAR OF THE POET

October 2014

Red Poppy



The Poetly Pass

Jamie Bond • Call Weston Shazor • Albert In'Wit'le Carrasco • Siddhartha Beth Pierce
 Janet P. Caldwell • June Bugg Barefield • Debbie M. Allen • Tony Heninger
 Joe DiVerbal Winddancer • Robert Gibbons • Neetu Wolf • Shereef Akbar-Rasheed
 Kimberly Burriham • William S. Peters, Sr.

October Feature Poets

Ceri Naz • RaJendra Padri • Elizabeth Castillo

THE YEAR OF THE POET

November 2014

Chrysanthemum



The Poetly Pass

Jamie Bond • Call Weston Shazor • Albert In'Wit'le Carrasco • Siddhartha Beth Pierce
 Janet P. Caldwell • June Bugg Barefield • Debbie M. Allen • Tony Heninger
 Joe DiVerbal Winddancer • Robert Gibbons • Neetu Wolf • Shereef Akbar-Rasheed
 Kimberly Burriham • William S. Peters, Sr.

November Feature Poets

Jocelyn Roseman • Jackie Allen • James Moore • Neville Hiatt

THE YEAR OF THE POET

December 2014

Narcissus



The Poetly Pass

Jamie Bond
 Call Weston Shazor
 Albert In'Wit'le Carrasco
 Siddhartha Beth Pierce
 Janet P. Caldwell
 June Bugg Barefield
 Debbie M. Allen
 Tony Heninger
 Joe DiVerbal Winddancer
 Robert Gibbons
 Neetu Wolf
 Shereef Akbar-Rasheed
 Kimberly Burriham
 William S. Peters, Sr.

December Feature Poets

Katherine Wyatt • WhittenFinn • SamsaGaito • JustinHilke

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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 Gibbons
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 Mohantri • 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 Gibbons
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



Bloodstone

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



Diamonds

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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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 Pesse 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 * Hilya 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



Pearl

The Poetry Pesse 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 * Hilya 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
Abbhik Shome * Christina Neal * Robert Neal



Rubies

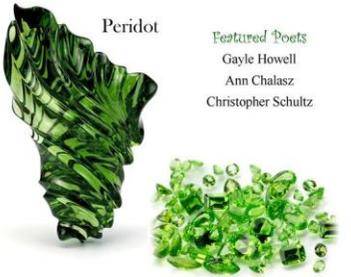
The Poetry Pesse 2015
Jamie Bond * Gail Weston Shazor * Albert 'Infinite' Carrasco
Siddhartha Beth Pierce * Janet P. Caldwell * Tony Henninger
Joe DaVerbal Minddancer * Neetu Wali * Shareef Abdur - Rasheed
Kimberly Burnham * Ann White * Keith Alan Hamilton
Katherine Wyatt * Fahredin Shelu * Hilya N.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

The Year of the Poet II

August 2015

Peridot

Featured Poets
Gayle Howell
Ann Chalasiz
Christopher Schultz



The Poetry Pesse 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 * Hilya N. Yilmaz
Teresa E. Gallion * Jackie Allen * William S. Peters, Sr.

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The Year of the Poet II
 September 2013

Featured Poets
 Alfreda Ghee * Lonnice Weeks Badley * Demetrios Trifiatis



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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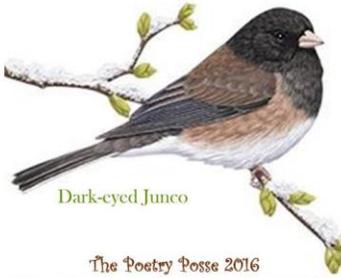
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The Year of the Poet III January 2016

Featured Poets

Lana Joseph * Atom Cyrus Rush * Christina Williams



Dark-eyed Junco

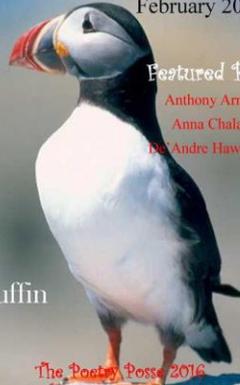
The Poetry Posse 2016

Gail Weston Shazor * Anna Jakubczak Vel Bettyvidalen * Anna J. White
Fahreddi Shelu * Hrushikesh Padhye * Janet P. Caldwell
Jose Davieros Miodoneer * Shereef Alshar * Rasheed
Albert Carrasco * Kimberly Barnham * Keith Allen Jankowski
Hulya N. Yilmaz * Demetrios Fotistas * Alan W. Jankowski
Teresa E. Gallion * Jackie Davis Allen * William S. Peters, Sr.

The Year of the Poet III February 2016

Featured Poets

Anthony Arnold
Anna Chalas
Dr. Andre Hawthorne



Puffin

The Poetry Posse 2016

Gail Weston Shazor * Jose Davieros Miodoneer * Alfredo Ghee
Fahreddi Shelu * Hrushikesh Padhye * Janet P. Caldwell
Anna Jakubczak Vel Bettyvidalen * Shereef Alshar * Rasheed
Albert Carrasco * Kimberly Barnham * Anna J. White
Hulya N. Yilmaz * Demetrios Fotistas * Alan W. Jankowski
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 * Jose Davieros Miodoneer * Alfredo Ghee
Fahreddi Shelu * Hrushikesh Padhye * Janet P. Caldwell
Anna Jakubczak Vel Bettyvidalen * Shereef Alshar * Rasheed
Albert Carrasco * Kimberly Barnham * Anna J. White
Hulya N. Yilmaz * Demetrios Fotistas * Alan W. Jankowski
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 * Jose Davieros Miodoneer * Alfredo Ghee
Fahreddi Shelu * Hrushikesh Padhye * Janet P. Caldwell
Anna Jakubczak Vel Bettyvidalen * Shereef Alshar * Rasheed
Albert Carrasco * Kimberly Barnham * Anna J. White
Hulya N. Yilmaz * Demetrios Fotistas * Alan W. Jankowski
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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 DeVierel Misdancker * AllTrade Ghoe
Nizar Sattari * Hrishikesh Padhye * Janet P. Caldwell
Abna Jalilbezek Vel Betty Alden * Shereef Aldier * Rashad
Albert Carrasco * Kimberly Burroughs * Alan J. White
Hilary N. D'Almeida * Demetrios Trifittis * 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 DeVierel Misdancker * AllTrade Ghoe
Nizar Sattari * Hrishikesh Padhye * Janet P. Caldwell
Abna Jalilbezek Vel Betty Alden * Shereef Aldier * Rashad
Albert Carrasco * Kimberly Burroughs * Alan J. White
Hilary N. D'Almeida * Demetrios Trifittis * Alan W. Jankowski
Teresa E. Gallon * Jackie Davis Allen * William S. Peters, Sr.

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 DeVierel Misdancker * AllTrade Ghoe
Nizar Sattari * Keith Allen Hamilton * Janet P. Caldwell
Abna Jalilbezek Vel Betty Alden * Shereef Aldier * Rashad
Albert Carrasco * Kimberly Burroughs * Alan J. White * Jen Walls
Hilary N. D'Almeida * Demetrios Trifittis * 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 DeVierel Misdancker * AllTrade Ghoe
Nizar Sattari * Keith Allen Hamilton * Janet P. Caldwell
Abna Jalilbezek Vel Betty Alden * Shereef Aldier * Rashad
Albert Carrasco * Kimberly Burroughs * Elizabeth Castillo * Jen Walls
Hilary N. D'Almeida * Demetrios Trifittis * Alan W. Jankowski
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The Year of the Poet III
September 2016

Featured Poets
Simone Weber
Abhijit Sen
Eunice Barbara C. Novicio

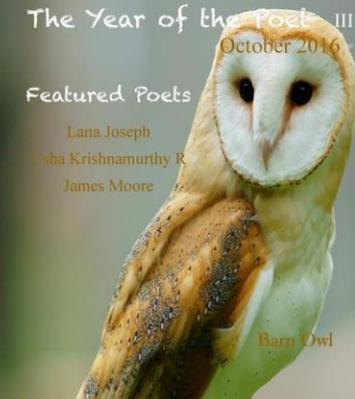


Long Billed Curlew

The Poetry Posse 2016
Gail Weston Shanon * Jane DeVerbel Muddancer * Jen Walls
Nizar Sattari * Janet Caldwell * Brenda Ghene
Joe DeVerbel Muddancer * Sharon Alder * Rashad
Albert Carrasco * Kimberly Burgham * Elizabeth Castillo
Hilary N. Adams * Demetrios Trifitis * Ilana W. Jankowski
Teresa E. Gallon * Jackie Davis Allen * William S. Peters, Sr.

The Year of the Poet III
October 2016

Featured Poets
Lana Joseph
Pasha Krishnamurthy R
James Moore

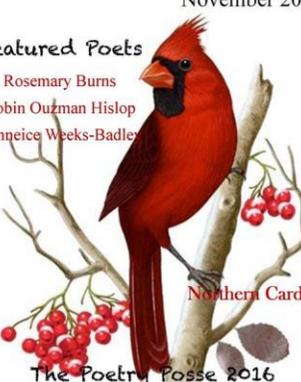


Barn Owl

The Poetry Posse 2016
Gail Weston Shanon * Caroline Nazzareno * Jen Walls
Nizar Sattari * Janet Caldwell * Brenda Ghene
Jane DeVerbel Muddancer * Sharon Alder * Rashad
Albert Carrasco * Kimberly Burgham * Elizabeth Castillo
Hilary N. Adams * Demetrios Trifitis * Ilana 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-Badler



Northern Cardinal

The Poetry Posse 2016
Gail Weston Shanon * Caroline Nazzareno * Jen Walls
Nizar Sattari * Janet Caldwell * Brenda Ghene
Joe DeVerbel Muddancer * Sharon Alder * Rashad
Albert Carrasco * Kimberly Burgham * Elizabeth Castillo
Hilary N. Adams * Demetrios Trifitis * Ilana 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

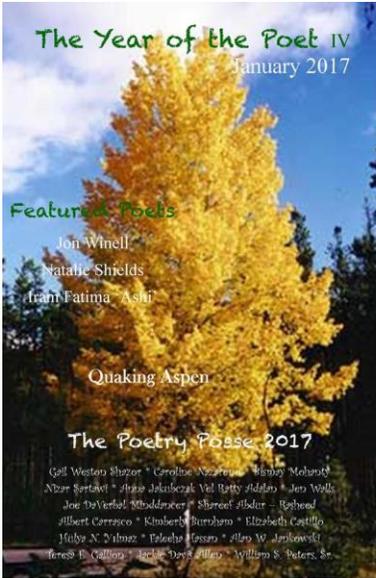
The Poetry Posse 2016
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Nizar Sattari * Janet Caldwell * Brenda Ghene
Joe DeVerbel Muddancer * Sharon Alder * Rashad
Albert Carrasco * Kimberly Burgham * Elizabeth Castillo
Hilary N. Adams * Demetrios Trifitis * Ilana W. Jankowski
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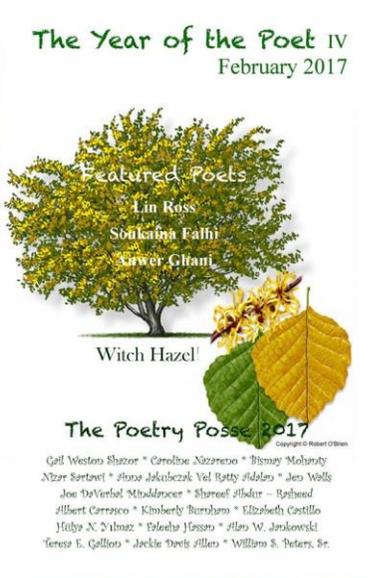


Featured Poets
Jon Winell
Natale Shields
Iram Fatima Ashi

Quaking Aspen

The Poetry Posse 2017
Gail Weston Shazor * Caroline Nazareno * Binny Mohanty
Nizar Sertawi * Atana Jakubczak Val Betty Adelan * Jen Walls
Joe DeVerlial Mbadugwe * Shareef Aladar - Rashad
Albert Carrasco * Kimberly Bursham * Elizabeth Castillo
Julya N. D'Almeida * Felicia Jasso * Jilou W. Jankowski
Teresa E. Gallon * Jackie Davis Allen * William S. Peters, Sr.

The Year of the Poet IV
February 2017

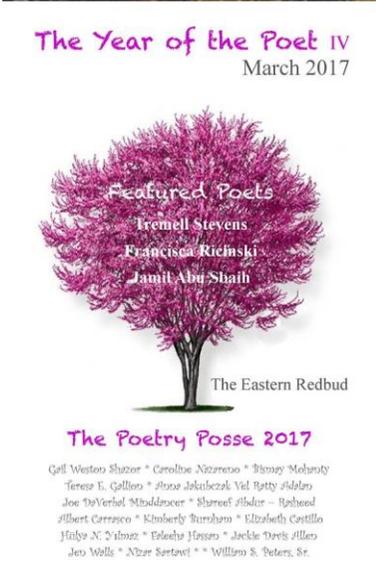


Featured Poets
Lin Ross
Sobkaina Falhi
Gower Ghani

Witch Hazel

The Poetry Posse 2017
Gail Weston Shazor * Caroline Nazareno * Binny Mohanty
Nizar Sertawi * Atana Jakubczak Val Betty Adelan * Jen Walls
Joe DeVerlial Mbadugwe * Shareef Aladar - Rashad
Albert Carrasco * Kimberly Bursham * Elizabeth Castillo
Julya N. D'Almeida * Felicia Jasso * Jilou W. Jankowski
Teresa E. Gallon * Jackie Davis Allen * William S. Peters, Sr.

The Year of the Poet IV
March 2017

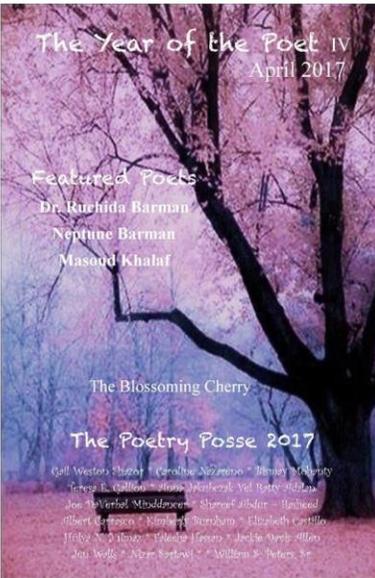


Featured Poets
Tremell Stevens
Francisca Ricinski
Jamil Abu Shaib

The Eastern Redbud

The Poetry Posse 2017
Gail Weston Shazor * Caroline Nazareno * Binny Mohanty
Teresa E. Gallon * Atana Jakubczak Val Betty Adelan
Joe DeVerlial Mbadugwe * Shareef Aladar - Rashad
Albert Carrasco * Kimberly Bursham * Elizabeth Castillo
Julya N. D'Almeida * Felicia Jasso * Jackie Davis Allen
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 * Binny Mohanty
Teresa E. Gallon * Atana Jakubczak Val Betty Adelan
Joe DeVerlial Mbadugwe * Shareef Aladar - Rashad
Albert Carrasco * Kimberly Bursham * Elizabeth Castillo
Julya N. D'Almeida * Felicia Jasso * Jackie Davis Allen
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The Flowering Dogwood Tree

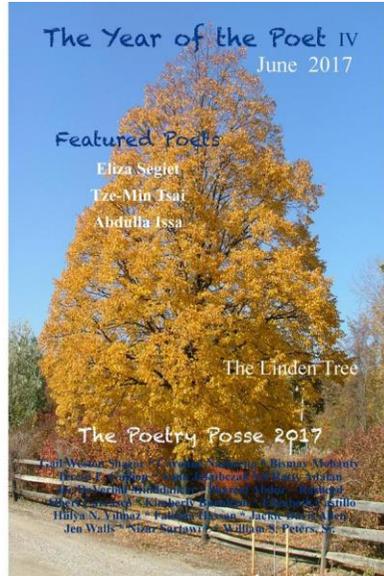


Featured Poets
Kallisa Powell
Alicja Maria Kuberska
Fethi Sassi

The Poetry Posse 2017

Gail Westcott Shazor * Caroline Nazareno * Bismay Mohanty
Teresa E. Gallion * Alana Jakubczak Val Ratty Aldana
Joe DeVirello * Mbaldaner * Shareef al-Dar * Richard
Albert Carrasco * Kimberly Burroughs * Elizabeth Castillo
Hilja N. Vilhoj * Faleha Hassan * Jackie Davis Allen
Jen Walls * Nizar Sertawi * * William S. Peters, Sr.

The Year of the Poet IV June 2017



Featured Poets

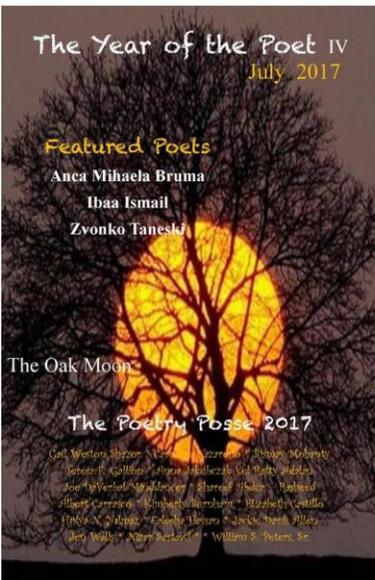
Eliza Segiet
Tze-Min Tsai
Abdulla Issa

The Linden Tree

The Poetry Posse 2017

Gail Westcott Shazor * Caroline Nazareno * Bismay Mohanty
Teresa E. Gallion * Alana Jakubczak Val Ratty Aldana
Joe DeVirello * Mbaldaner * Shareef al-Dar * Richard
Albert Carrasco * Kimberly Burroughs * Elizabeth Castillo
Hilja N. Vilhoj * Faleha Hassan * Jackie Davis Allen
Jen Walls * Nizar Sertawi * * William S. Peters, Sr.

The Year of the Poet IV July 2017



Featured Poets

Anca Mihaela Bruma
Ibaa Ismail
Zvonko Taneski

The Oak Moon

The Poetry Posse 2017

Gail Westcott Shazor * Caroline Nazareno * Bismay Mohanty
Teresa E. Gallion * Alana Jakubczak Val Ratty Aldana
Joe DeVirello * Mbaldaner * Shareef al-Dar * Richard
Albert Carrasco * Kimberly Burroughs * Elizabeth Castillo
Hilja N. Vilhoj * Faleha Hassan * Jackie Davis Allen
Jen Walls * Nizar Sertawi * * William S. Peters, Sr.

The Year of the Poet IV August 2017



Featured Poets

Jonathan Aquino
Kitty Hsu
Langley Shazor

The Hazelnut Tree

The Poetry Posse 2017

Gail Westcott Shazor * Caroline Nazareno * Bismay Mohanty
Teresa E. Gallion * Alana Jakubczak Val Ratty Aldana
Joe DeVirello * Mbaldaner * Shareef al-Dar * Richard
Albert Carrasco * Kimberly Burroughs * Elizabeth Castillo
Hilja N. Vilhoj * Faleha Hassan * 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.

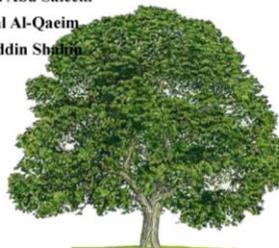
The Year of the Poet IV October 2017

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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The Year of the Poet V

January 2018

Featured Poets

Iyad Shamasnah

Yasmeen Hamzeh

Ali Abdolrezaei



Aksum

The Poetry Posse 2018

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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 Acry

The Poetry Posse 2018

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The Year of the Poet V

March 2018



Featured Poets

Iram Fatima 'Ashi'

Cassandra Swan

Jaleel Khazaal

Shazia Zaman

Featured Poets

Sarah Ann Lewis

Suzanne Roberts

Natasha Dean

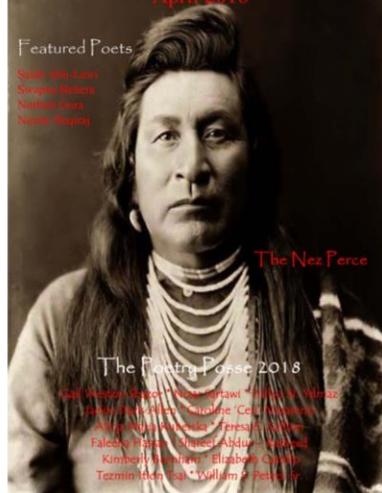
Natasha Mayday

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April 2018



The Nez Perce

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Featured Poets
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Sylvia K. Malinowska
Lindia Ahmeti
Ofelia Prodan

The Sumerians



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The Year of the Poet V
June 2018

Featured Poets
Bilal Maliqi * Daim Miftari * Gojko Božović * Sofija Živković

The Paleo Indians

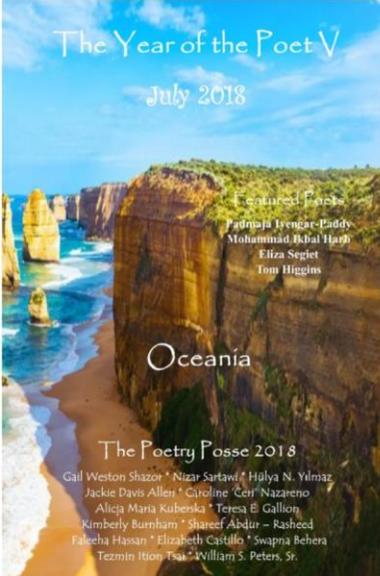


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July 2018

Featured Poets
Pratima Jyengar-Paddy
Mohammad Akhal Hady
Eliza Seget
Tom Higgins

Oceania



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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
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The Poetry Posse ~ 2018



September 2018 ~ Featured Poets



**Kolade
Olanrewaju
Freedom**



**Eliza
Segiet**



**Mazher
Hussain
Abdul
Ghani**



**Lilly
Swarm**



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