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# *The* **Epitome** */iˈpitəmi/*

Academy of Language Studies, UiTM Kedah Branch

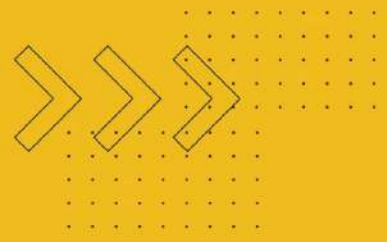
Unleash the epitome  
of creative writers

Volume 2 Issue 6

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*The*  
**Epitome**  
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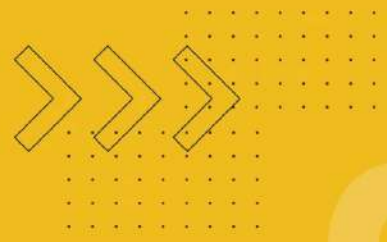
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# Synopsis

The Academy of Language Studies at Universiti Teknologi MARA (UiTM) is thrilled to unveil the vibrant sixth edition of its e-magazine, The Epitome. This publication celebrates our passionate commitment and unwavering dedication to the art and craft of language and literature.

THE EPITOME emerges as a dynamic platform for a community of writers, educators, scholars, poets, and researchers, all eager to share their unique perspectives, breakthroughs, wisdom, and tales. This edition showcases a mix of creative writing genres, from the dramatic twists of Playwriting to the introspective depths of Personal Essays, including Short Stories, Songs, Speeches, Memoirs, Literary Journalism, Humorous Writing, Lyric Essays, and Innovative Essays. With a rich tapestry of voices, presenting and embracing works in English, Bahasa Melayu, Mandarin, and Arabic, each adding its own uniqueness to the realm of language and literature.

Synopsis



*The*  
**Epitome**  
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# Preface

**Puan Robekhah Harun**  
Acting Head of Faculty  
Academy of Language Studies  
UiTM Kedah Branch

Welcome to Epitome, the 6<sup>th</sup> Issue. Epitome is the platform where writers transformed moments into meaning and emotions into language, offering readers a mirror in which they may recognize parts of themselves. The theme for this publication is Stories That Stay - A timeless collection of powerful narratives – memories, questions, friendships, losses, and life-altering choices.

Stories That Stay is a quiet yet powerful reminder that the most enduring narratives are often born from moments of reflection rather than spectacle. The stories collected within this bulletin encourages readers to pause, to listen, and to engage with experiences that linger long after the final page is turned.

The writers have approached their work with sincerity and depth, transforming personal moments into shared understanding. In doing so, they remind us that stories do not end on the page; they continue within the reader, shaping thought, emotion, and perspective.

I extend our heartfelt congratulations to the editorial team and all the contributors for bringing Stories That Stay to life. Your dedication, creativity, and thoughtful curation have resulted in a body of work that resonates with sincerity and depth. May this publication serve not as an endpoint, but as a beginning. Continue to write, to publish, and to trust in the power of your voices. The world needs stories like these – stories that stay.

May Epitome serve as both recognition and encouragement for writers to continue to write with honesty, to publish with purpose, and to trust that your words matter. In a world that often moves too quickly, your willingness to slow down and tell stories that endure is invaluable.





# Editor's note

Assalamualaikum and warmest greetings,

Dear gentle readers,

Alhamdulillah, by the grace of Allah SWT, we are delighted to present the 6th issue of our e-magazine, centered on the theme "Stories That Stay." These are not just stories – they are living reminiscences, deepest questions, treasured friendships, deep losses, and life-changing choices that remain with us long after the moment has passed.

Every narrative in this issue carries a spark – a reminder that our journeys are written with wisdom, by the One who knows us best. Some stories teach, some heal, and others strengthen us when we feel we cannot go on. May these pages offer you reflection, comfort, and renewed strength, Insha-Allah.

As the Chief Editor, I extend my heartfelt gratitude to all the contributors who poured their hearts into their writing, and to you – our beloved readers – for your continuous support. May Allah bless your path as you read, reflect, and grow through these timeless stories.

Happy reading, and may your heart find what it needs.

**With love and gratitude,**  
**Hajah Razanawati Nordin**  
Chief Editor





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# MRS. CARMELA, A CARING POLICEWOMAN

Genre: Crime Drama Setting: Taormina, Sicily, Italy

Piermauro Catarinella

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This script introduces Mrs. Carmela, showcasing her unique blend of compassion and skill in her work. The picturesque setting of Taormina, combined with her emotional journey, creates a compelling and empathetic detective story.

## [Opening Scene]

(The sun rises over the beautiful beaches of Taormina, its golden light reflecting off the calm Mediterranean Sea. The camera pans across the vibrant town of Taormina, capturing the mix of ancient architecture and modern life. The soft sound of waves crashing against the shore is heard.)

## NARRATOR (V.O.)

In the heart of Sicily, where the sun kisses the sea, there lives a woman who balances the most delicate of duties: a mother of four, a widow, and a criminal detective. This is the story of Detective Carmela.

(The camera moves to a small, cozy home overlooking the beach. Carmela, a 55-year-old woman with warm eyes and a motherly demeanor, is in the kitchen preparing breakfast. The sound of children laughing in the background fills the space.)

## INT. CARMELA'S KITCHEN - MORNING

Carmela is serving breakfast to her four children, all of whom are laughing and arguing about who will get the last croissant. She smiles warmly, her eyes filled with love. Despite the chaos, she exudes calm and control. Her phone rings. It's a call from the station.

## CARMELA

(answering the phone, with a gentle tone) Carmela here.

## DETECTIVE COLLEAGUE (V.O.)

We've got a new case, Carmela. The suspect is waiting for you.

## CARMELA

(sighs softly, looking at her children) Alright. I'll be there in twenty.  
(She hangs up and turns to her children.)

## CARMELA

(smiling)  
Mama has to go to work. Be good, okay? I'll be back soon.  
(The children nod, seemingly accustomed to this routine. Carmela kisses each one on the forehead and exits the house.)

## EXT. POLICE STATION - LATE MORNING

(Carmela arrives at the police station. The building is modest, but it exudes a sense of purpose. Inside, her colleagues greet her with respect, intrigued by her unique approach to investigations.

## DETECTIVE COLLEAGUE

(as Carmela enters the interrogation room) He's a tough one, Carmela. He hasn't said a word yet.

## CARMELA

(smiling gently, confident) Let me try.  
(She enters the room where a young man, looking nervous and disheveled, sits handcuffed at the table. He looks up at her as she sits across from him, her expression is soft, welcoming, and calm.)

## CARMELA

(with a kind smile)  
You look like you've had a rough night. Would you like some water?



**CARMELA**

(looking out the window at the distant sea, her voice low and reflective)  
 I know. But in the end, they're all someone's son or daughter. I wish there was another way. (She pauses, looking back at her colleague, who watches her with respect and admiration.) CARMELA  
 (with a soft smile)

But the job is the job. And I'll always do it, for my kids and everyone else who needs justice.

**EXT. TAORMINA STREETS- SUNSET**

(Carmela walks down the cobble streets of Taormina. The town is bathed in the warm glow of sunset. The sea sparkles in the background, and the camera captures the beauty of the town, juxtaposed with the weight of the day's events.)

**NARRATOR (V.O.)**

In a town full of beauty, where the sun never seems to set, Mrs. Carmela walks the line between love and justice. Her work is done with tenderness, but it always comes at a cost. In her heart, she carries the burden of every soul she meets. (Carmela pauses at a small café overlooking the sea, where she sits, lost in thought. The camera slowly zooms out, showing the tranquil yet conflicted woman in this peaceful, beautiful world.)

**NARRATOR (V.O.)**

In Taormina, even a caring policewoman must face the shadows.

**[END SCENE]**

**SUSPECT**

(hesitant)  
 I - I don't want anything.

**CARMELA**

(gently leaning forward, her voice soothing)  
 It's okay. I understand. Sometimes, it feels like the world's on your shoulders. But you're here now. And you don't have to carry it alone.  
 (The suspect looks at her, confused but intrigued by her warmth.)

**CARMELA**

I've got four children at home, you know. Sometimes, I feel like I'm carrying the world. But I always try to make things right for them. Don't you want to make things right, too?  
 (There's a long pause. The suspect seems to soften, the walls around him starting to crumble.)

**SUSPECT**

(quietly)  
 I didn't mean to hurt anyone. It just... happened.

**CARMELA**

(softly, but with authority)  
 Tell me what happened. I'm here to listen.  
 (The suspect begins to talk, the camera slowly pulling back as Carmela listens patiently. Her face shows a mix of empathy and sadness. The confession comes easily, but Carmela's expression is somber.)

**INT. POLICE STATION - AFTERNOON**

(Carmela walks out of the interrogation room, her expression heavy. Her colleague notices her mood.)

**DETECTIVE COLLEAGUE**

(concerned)  
 Everything okay, Carmela?

**CARMELA**

(sighing deeply, her eyes distant)  
 It's never easy, knowing someone's life is about to change forever.

**DETECTIVE COLLEAGUE**

But you got the confession. That's what matters.

**Biodata of author(s)**

Piermauro Catarinella was born in Rome, Italy, on June 6, 1964, and got his Ph.D. in 1991 at the University of Rome "La Sapienza". He was a lawyer and honorary judge at the Magistrate Court of Rome (Italy). Since 2001, he has been a lecturer in the Italian language at the Academy of Language Studies, University Teknologi Mara, Shah Alam campus. He wrote many articles for "Giurisprudenza di Merito" (a well-known law review in Italy) and also for "The Journal of Language Studies," published by the University Teknologi Mara.



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