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MARA

# *The* **Epitome** */I'pitəmi/*

Academy of Language Studies, UiTM Kedah Branch

*Unleash the epitome of creative writers*

Volume 1, Issue 1

2023

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eISSN 3009 - 0075

Published by:

UiTM Kedah Branch,  
Pn. Razanawati Nordin, Chief Editor,  
UiTM Cawangan Kedah, Kampus Sg. Petani, 08400 Merbok, Kedah  
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## SYNOPSIS

The Academy of Language Studies, Universiti Teknologi MARA (UiTM) Kedah branch is proud to present the first issue of its e-magazine, The Epitome, as our focus to highlight our commitment to contribute to the areas of creative writing.

THE EPITOME aims to provide a platform for writers, educators, academicians, poet, and researchers to share their ideas, findings, knowledge, and experience, particularly on various creative writing genres - personal essays, poetry, short stories, songs, movie scripts, plays, and innovative projects in four different languages ( English, Bahasa Melayu, Mandarin, and Arabic).

## EDITOR'S NOTE

Dear readers,

It is with great pleasure and immense pride that we, the Academy of Language Studies at Universiti Teknologi MARA (UiTM) Kedah branch, extend our warmest welcome to all writers and readers to honor all 127 artistic masterpieces. This is indeed a tremendous achievement to commemorate our debut.

We are privileged to offer the platform for the writers to show their talents in creative writing in this magazine, which serves as a testament to our commitment to the area of personal essays, poetry, short stories, songs, movie scripts, plays, and innovative projects. Their invaluable contributions and unwavering commitment to academic excellence have played a vital role in shaping this magazine.

Thank you.

Best regards,

Editorial Board



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## I COULDN'T REMEMBER

**Hanna Insyirah Mohd Sukri**

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I couldn't remember,  
The first time I was breathing in the air of the  
island of Great Britain.  
The sights, the sounds, the tastes.  
I wish I could remember.

What have I seen?  
Was it the striking white swans on the lake?  
Or the happening crowds on Piccadilly Circus  
at night?  
The strong tower bridge over River Thames, or  
The Prime Meridian of the world in Greenwich  
with  
The view overlooking the mesmerizing  
Greenwich Park?  
Oh! Must be the plump sheep on the foot of  
the green hills on the way to Windermere.  
I couldn't remember.

What have I heard?  
The growl of an underground tube coming to  
its stop,  
Or was it the chitchats of blue-eyed school kids  
passing by?  
The inspiring words from the minds of two  
talented Malaysian writers,  
As opposed to the shouts of the sellers at  
Columbia Road Flower Market.  
Were there gushes of wind as I walked along  
the waterfront?  
Or lovely British accent of a friendly ice-cream  
seller?  
I couldn't really remember.

What have I smelt though?  
The aromatic hot cocoa from Pret A Manger?  
Or the fruity smell of Lush in Bowness' Town?  
Without a doubt the freshest air of the  
breathtaking Avon's River, and  
The sweet smell of the candy shop around the  
corner.  
Was there any scent of homecooked salmon  
and butter rice for dinner?  
Or some vintage smell around Anne  
Hathaway's Cottage?  
I couldn't remember at all.

I wonder what I have tasted.  
Was it the sour lemon sorbet sold in  
Windermere?  
Or the rich flavor of the mutton curry and the  
biryani near Buckingham?  
Certainly the freshly made green tea and peach  
juice from King's Cross,  
As well as the scrumptious waffle at Hampton  
by Hilton made the list.  
A plate of fish and chips so big that was shared  
by four,  
Oh! And the delicious vanilla pudding from  
Waitrose too.  
Still, I couldn't remember.

What have I touched with both my hands?  
Was it the plane tree leaves covering the  
sidewalks?  
Or the water of Lake Windermere surrounded  
by swans?  
The vintage walls of the shops in the town of  
Windermere,  
And the covers of books in the oldest  
bookshop in London too.  
Oh! The miniature roofs at the Model Village  
were mesmerizing, and  
The shortbreads and cookies in a shop in  
Stratford-upon-Avon too.  
I wish I could remember more.

What have I experienced?  
Does the liveliness of Cheshire Oaks include?  
Or only the magnificent Lake District  
And the horror of The Woman in Black at  
Fortune Theatre on Russell Street?  
Oh! Must be the pitter patter of the rain in the  
middle of Trafalgar Square,  
And that unbelievable feeling at Shakespeare's  
Birthplace.  
Were there any mornings of excitement and  
nights of gratefulness too?  
Yet, I couldn't remember!

They say if it is memorable, it is remembered.  
Every single detail, every single feeling.  
I couldn't remember the momentous trip, the  
places, the feelings, the senses.  
Or could I?



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eISSN 3009-0075



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