



Healing,
with Poetry

VOICE
of the
Soul

An illustration of a hand holding a quill pen in a blue inkwell, positioned to the left of the word 'VOICE'. The quill is green and the inkwell is blue. The hand is white and wearing a blue sleeve.

Volume III



Compilation of Poems:
Universiti Teknologi MARA Cawangan Kedah

Foreword

It is with great honor and enthusiasm that I write the foreword for *Healing With Poetry*, a remarkable anthology curated by our esteemed chief editor and featuring 200 poignant poems. This compilation is a testimony to the profound impact that poetry can have on our emotional and psychological well-being.



In an era marked by extraordinary challenges and rapid change, the healing power of poetry offers a unique and necessary relief. Through the verses of these talented poets, we find a sanctuary where words provide tranquillity and understanding, bridging the gap between individual struggles and collective healing.

The Academy of Language Studies is committed to fostering a deeper appreciation for the literary arts and their therapeutic potential. This anthology embodies our mission, showcasing the talent and creativity within our community and beyond. Let us celebrate the success of the VOS III compilation.

I extend my deepest gratitude to all the poets who contributed their work to this collection, to the dedicated editorial team, and to everyone involved in bringing this project to fruition. Your collective efforts have created a work of enduring value and beauty.

May *Healing With Poetry* inspire, console, and uplift all who read it, reinforcing the timeless truth that through the power of words, we can find healing and hope.

Sincerely,

Azlan Abdul Rahman

Head of the Academy of Language Studies

Preface

It is with great pleasure and pride that I present to you Voice of The Soul Volume III: A poetry compilation with the theme of Healing With Poetry. This volume is a testament to the power of words to heal, comfort, and transform. The 200 poems contained within these pages are diverse in theme and style, yet they are united by a common purpose which is to offer relief and insight during times of struggle and to celebrate the flexibility of the human spirit.



As the chief editor, I have had the honour of curating and refining these works, ensuring that each poem resonates with the theme of healing. This journey has been a deeply enriching experience, allowing me to witness the myriad ways in which poets can articulate pain, joy, hope, and recovery. Each contributor has poured their heart and soul into their verses, creating a tapestry of emotions and reflections that will undoubtedly touch every reader.

This compilation would not have been possible without the unwavering support and collaboration of many individuals. I extend my heartfelt gratitude to our dedicated team of editors, who meticulously reviewed each submission, and to the poets whose bravery and creativity have brought this project to life. Special thanks are also due to our publishing team for their hard work in bringing this volume to fruition.

Healing With Poetry is more than just a collection of poems; it is a journey through the human experience, offering a beacon of light for those navigating the darker times. It is my hope that these poems will provide you with the same comfort and inspiration that they have given me.

Thank you for joining us on this journey of healing and self-discovery.

Warm regards,
Editor- in - Chief
Sharina Sa'ad

Acknowledgement

The production of this poetry compilation, *Healing With Poetry*, has been a collaborative journey filled with inspiration, support, and dedication. I would like to extend my heartfelt gratitude to everyone who has contributed to bringing this project to life.

First and foremost, I thank all the poets who shared their heartfelt words and personal experiences. Your courage and creativity have provided the essence of this collection, transforming pain and healing into powerful verses. I would also like to acknowledge the contributions of the editorial team. Your meticulous attention to detail and dedication to excellence have ensured the highest quality for this collection. Thank you for your hard work and commitment.

To the designers and artists, your creative talents have given this compilation a visual identity that complements and enhances the written word. Thank you for bringing the poetry to life through your beautiful designs.

Lastly, I extend my gratitude to all readers. Your engagement with this collection and your appreciation of the healing power of poetry give purpose to this work. May these poems bring solace, reflection, and inspiration to all who read them.

Voice of The Soul Volume III: A compilation of Poems is published today because of you. Congratulations and Thank You, everyone.

Chief Editor
Sharina Sa'ad

"Poetry is a healing balm for the soul, a way to weave our pain and joy into words that speak to our deepest selves."

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Title page

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Emotions



at jól mes
egy tál tiszta vízbe tesztük és fél
meghámozva rakjuk. Több bő
rakjuk üvegekbe. A cukrot
Nagyobb üvegekbe

SUITCASE

By : Syakirah Mohammed

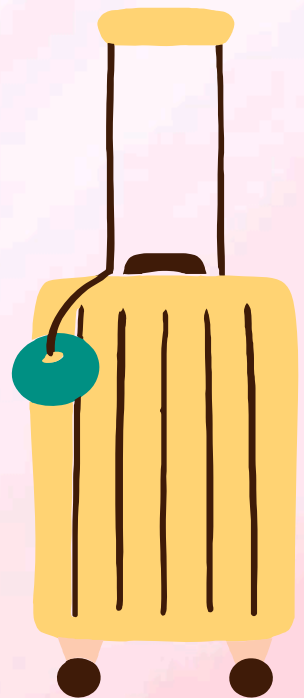
Packing my suitcase for the impending visit,
Feels like tucking away the memories of our lives,
Neatly folded - stored, compartmentalized,
Perhaps to revisit in the solitude of my old age,
Of feelings forever buried and forgotten,
from you, they remained hidden.

I folded away the memories of Myeondong summer,
Huddling together under a shared umbrella,
like a princess with her knight in shining armour,
Starring in the making of my own Korean drama,
The lead sheltering me from the rain,
I casted none other, than you.

You would never learn the secret I kept,
Of the umbrella safely tucked in my bag,
One that I pretended not to have,
Of the feeling I shall never forget,
My warmed and contented heart,
The sense of belonging, being sheltered by you.

Of the Itaewon coffee shop where we lingered,
Post dinner at the Italian restaurant,
There you bought me a bouquet of flowers,
When the peddling ahjumah caught my eyes,
that night I know I shall never recover,
from the fall, spiralling into the abyss of you.

I kept the spring cherry blossoms that I picked,
And tucked into the pocket of my jeans,
Like I tucked away the proposal you made,
How can I explain, would you even understand,
a nameless relationship -even for you,
is not a road I would take.



So back and forth it went on for years,
Building a relationship that we termed "just friends",
Though in my heart you are so much more,
We were held back by impossibilities...responsibilities,
People upon me dependent I could never cast aside,
And you finally nodded in understanding,
To my question- do you see why I can never leave?

I put away the memory of that twilight,
When "I love you" greeted me instead of "hello",
Upon answering that evening call,
It might be a joke, but little did you know,
My heart soared like an eagle taking flight,
Laughingly saying "saranghaeyo" as the day faded into the
night.

Then the autumn visit the following November,
The first snowfall in my beloved Insadong,
You laughing heartily to my excitement,
When I called to share with you the moment,
Without knowing the significance of first snow,
And of the person that first sprang to mind.

On the way to that drama location,
I ignored your constant grumblings,
when you said I made you do things,
And go places you before never went,
Secretly my heart soared in elation,
That to you I was someone of importance.

I folded away that last Gapyeong winter,
Of you waiting with face worries-etched,
Of us arriving late on a train delayed,
Of you patiently teaching the kids to ski,
Of the realization that I was so lucky,
To meet you, who love my people too.

Four years of being thousand miles apart,
The occasional calls and texts exchanged,
The differences that were glaringly present,
And chasms we would never bridge,
Slowly I accepted the cruel reality,
That for us it was not meant to be.

Until you returned with the question,
To which I replied "no, it is too hard",
I said no one resides in my heart,
Though it has always been you,
Even when I told you I prefer being alone,
And that I choose God over you.

So, to this juncture we finally came,
So many things have changed yet remained the same,
And this winter perhaps we'll lay to rest the dreams,
Packed into the suitcases of our lives,
As we traverse the final journeys,
apart but connected at heart.

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