



VOICE of the SOUL

A Compilation of Poems



Fore Word



It has been my utmost pleasure to announce the first publication of a poetry book initiated and hosted by Akademi Pengajian Bahasa (APB), Universiti Teknologi MARA (UiTM) Kedah Branch. The original idea of the book has been proposed by the speaker of a webinar entitled Voice of the soul: Collection of Short Poems, Puan Hajjah Sharina Saad and later she set up an editorial team to realize the mission. As the head of department, I will always support initiative like this one and will be looking forward for the coming editions of more creative writing books in the future.

While we may live and work in different campuses and in different fields, we all share the same core giving philosophy. This book captures that philosophy and shows that it is more than a fable or a pipe dream. It is real, it is original words from all of you who have contributed your poems in the first edition of this poetry book. This is the real art of giving. A book of poems from academicians to academicians.

Congratulations to the editorial team and to all contributors.

Azlan Abdul Rahman



Pre Face

It is our pleasure to introduce this first edition of the poetry book called Voice of The Soul: Collection of poems which originated from a webinar series entitled Voice of the Soul: Collection of Short Poems organized and hosted by Academy of Language Studies and ILD Universiti Teknologi Mara Kedah Branch. The major purpose of the workshop is to learn how language expresses feelings and emotions and to encourage lecturers to write creatively as a hobby or perhaps a therapy from stress at work. During the webinar, participants were introduced to poetry writing and were encouraged to submit their written poems to be published as a creative work. Alhamdulillah, we received a remarkable response from the participants, and we extended the invitation to interested lecturers from various campuses all over Malaysia. Within a month period, 150 poems have been successfully compiled from interested 118 lecturers and academicians from UiTM and other higher learning institutions.

The aim of the poetry book is to provide in one edition, a compilation of unpublished poems from academicians to unleash the potential in them to become better writers. To encourage the beginners to write their poems, the selections in the edition are free verse and the writers are given freedom to choose their own themes. The themes include love and life, family, happiness, experiences, positivity, hopes, spiritual, education and life during the pandemic. The poems reflect the poets' inner voices and their own perception on certain issues in life and their environment. It is hoped that readers of this book would benefit personally and professionally.

Finally, this book could not have come into reality without a great deal of assistance and encouragement from many sources. We must acknowledge the great efforts of the contributors of the poems who have penned down their creative juices and diligently wrote their masterpieces. Our hope is that they will continue to write poems in the future because Poetry has a power to inspire change like no other art form.

Editor- in - Chief
Hajjah Sharina Saad

Acknowledgement

Inspired by the words from Friedrich Nietzsche,

“One must still have chaos in oneself to be able to give birth to a dancing star.”

I have always like to encourage others to write poems because I believe there is a little poet in you waiting to come to light. All you need to do is dig into yourself for deep answers to all your doubts and worries and let them be expressed into words that you have been keeping in your head for a long time. I suppose you must have felt relief and pleased after letting go your inner voices. You have just produced your masterpiece! I am delighted that you have finally poured your heart out and let your voices from the soul to come out to create wonderful poetries in this book.

Please be proud that now you can call yourself a poet.

I would like to personally thank the head of Akademi Pengajian Bahasa Encik Azlan Bin Rahman for the utmost support and to the diligent editorial team for the effort and dedication to the publication of the first edition of the poetry book. My heartfelt gratitude goes to each one of you who has contributed your poems. Keep up the good work and keep writing poems.

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

Chief Editor
Sharina Saad

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**VOICE OF THE SOUL: COLLECTION OF POEMS
A COMPILATION OF FREE VERSE POEMS FROM ACADEMICIANS TO
ACADEMICIANS**

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Moral Values

“THE LITTLE THINGS”

By Patricia Pawa Pitil

Struggling...

With our lives, all of us are enduring.
The world has become extremely challenging.
In terms of health, personal, financial, domestic, social, and more.
Together, we can do several little things to be modest than before.
To make our world safer and healthier.
To ensure our place to live, will be better.

Be kind to one another...

This can start with helping each other...
To carry strangers' shopping bags at the supermarket or a random store...
Though entering a shop by yourself, you help others by holding the door...
Let those who buy one or two things queue before you...
Help the cashier pack groceries into shopping bags too.

Give thanks and smile...

These kind acts, even the simple ones, will go way more than a mile...
Even towards strangers, whom you do not have a clue...
For their struggles in life are unbeknownst to you...
If others also treat you in that way...
I'm sure that you will have a nicer day.

Pet your neighbour's cat; stray cats or dogs are for you to feed...

Animals are helpless creatures, so our caring love is what they need...
I guess if we could speak with them, they may wish to become someone's pet...
To live comfortably in a home, fed and cleaned every day, and taken to the vet...
To love and care for these animals, is the least that you can do...
Remember, friends, they all have feelings too.

Always say thanks...

Thanks to waitresses who took your orders, both young and old...
Thanks to cashiers who packed your groceries, or filled your petrol...
Thanks to strangers who helped you at the mall, or in the supermarket...
Thanks to mechanics at the workshop, who repaired your car, or fixed your gasket...
Thanks to bike riders who delivered food to your home while you were hungry...
Thanks to those, whose name and background, you do not know for each and every.
They have always been there to work and serve.
They should be appreciated, for this is what they deserve.

Always be contented with what you own and adore...

Give thanks for everything that you have, even if you think you require more.
Foster a good heart, an open mind, and a modest sight...
The world will less often fight, for what everyone thinks is right...
These are the things we can do...
So, everything should start with you.

Last but not least...

To those who throw rocks at you, give them flowers...
In other words, always offer kindness that showers...
Treat others as how you want others to treat you.
To gain less stress, less hatred, and more love, always be true.

My dear friends...

The COVID19 pandemic has made us less social, has made us hide our face...
For all the little things we do, matter a lot in making the world a better place...

Hold on, my friend, hold on tight...and ride out the storm.

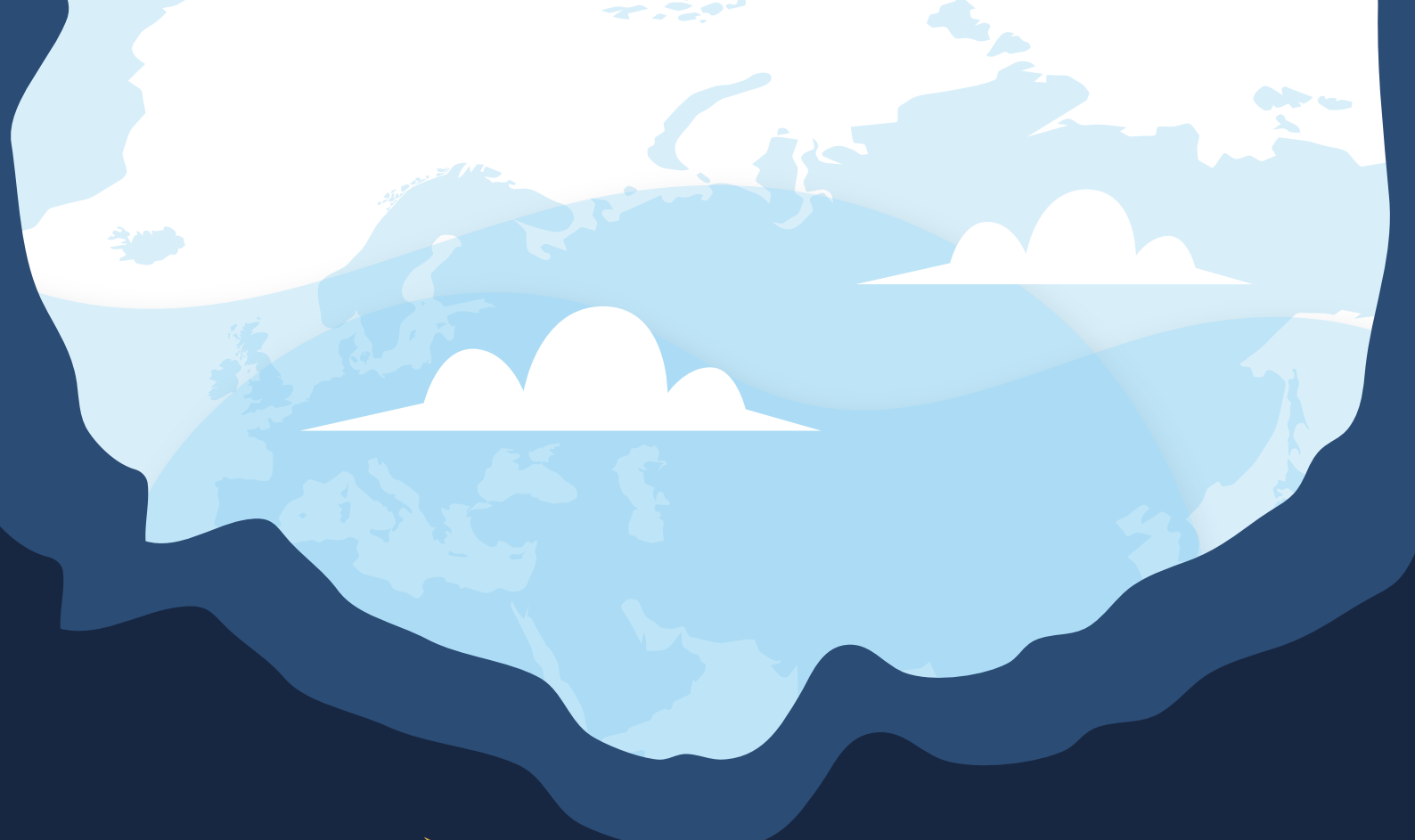
There is a new day at the end of the night...despite the new norm.

The light at the end of this tunnel, will guide us through any mountain and hill.

Everything shall pass, for there is a way for every will.

The little things that you and I can do...

Shall make this world a better place for me and you.



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