

Preface

Poetic Heart: Connecting Humanity is a symposium that transcends geographical and linguistic barriers, uniting voices in a shared celebration of resilience, tolerance, peace, harmony, sustainability and the strengthening of social bonds. It is more than a gathering of poets—it is a testament to the power of words in fostering understanding and unity.

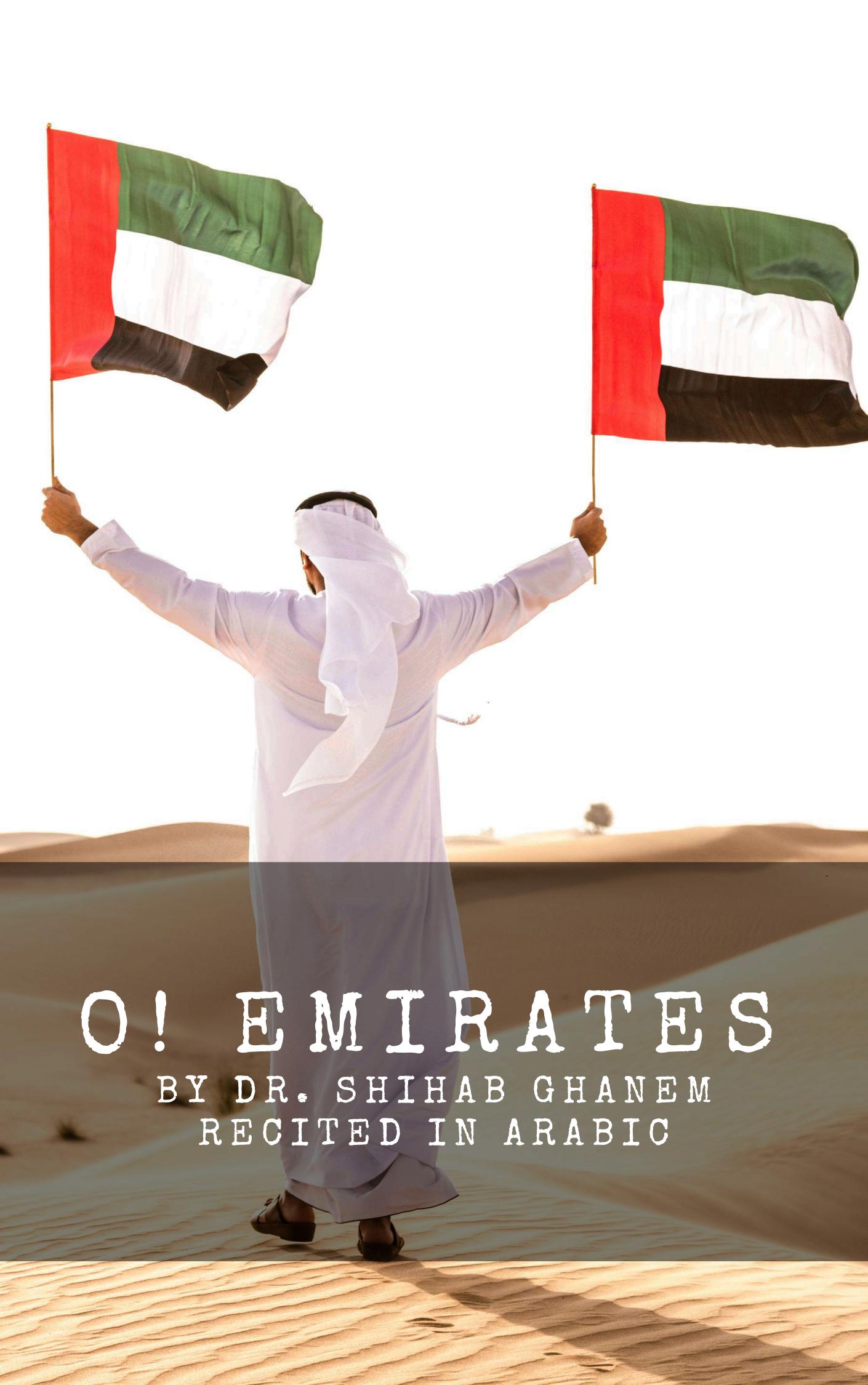
The UAE has declared 2025 as the Year of the Community, to foster inter-generational ties, preserve our cultural heritage and nurture a sense of belonging. Poetic Heart aligns seamlessly with this vision, and we extend our heartfelt gratitude to the Leaders of this Land for cultivating an environment of inclusivity, growth and sustainability.

His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum has emphasized the importance of community, stating, "The declaration of 2025 as the Year of Community highlights our priorities for the future: strengthening social bonds and fostering unity across society. The foundation of our nation's strength lies in a united community, where individuals are connected and care is extended to each other. A strong community thrives on fortified families, and lays the groundwork for a brighter future for generations to come."

Poetic Heart is founded on the belief that human potential is limitless and that change is driven by the collective actions of individuals. Dr. Daisaku Ikeda, a Buddhist philosopher, peacebuilder, educator, author and poet said, "While celebrating the unique characteristics of different peoples and cultures, we must create solidarity on the level of our common humanity, our common life. Without such solidarity, there will be no future for the human race. Diversity should not beget conflict in the world, but richness."

As you turn these pages, immerse yourself in the wisdom, passion and artistry of the Luminaries of Verse—poets who write not just with words, but from the heart.

**Some poems have been unofficially translated into English from their original language, with acknowledgments where applicable.



O! Emirates

O! Emirates, you are a beautiful dream achieved by strong arms and minds
And nurtured with all love by Sheikhs and men who struggled hard

Zayed was a genius in leadership, with no equal or peer
A great unifier and an exceptionally generous Arab
Generosity flowed on his palms
And around him Rashid and the Sheikhs of the Emirates
who were true to their resolve, so the path became clear
Followed by Khalifa and the other heirs

Who completed the enormous construction.

And the two Muhammads shined,

each registering a unique fingerprint

You O! Emirates, you are a deep love in our hearts and you are an umbrageous shade for all

Half a century passed like a dream of a night spent in growth and bounty

One step after another in ascension and prosperity towards great goals

You are a model for every country that cares about building the world and its beautification

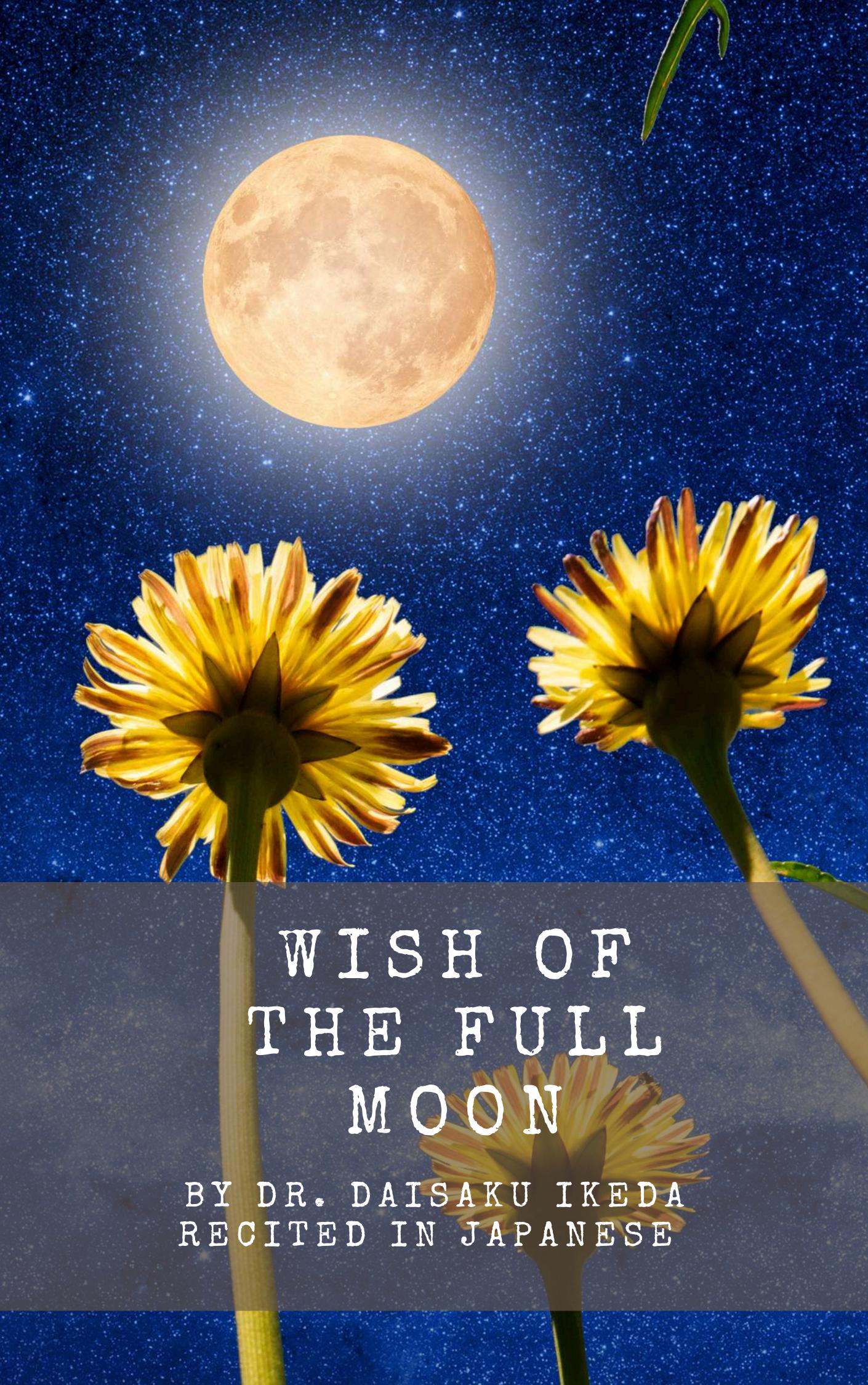
The happiness of its people and their development

in safety are its concern Il Emirates, you are a beautiful dream that was ac

O! Emirates, you are a beautiful dream that was achieved by strong arms and determined sincere minds



by Dr. Shihab Ghanem



WISH OF THE FULL MOON

In the vast, serene sky,
the full moon quietly appeared,
encouraging all:
"Have a big heart,
have a big smile!"

From the land of fairy-tale
The full moon watches over all.
With a warm smile, the moon extends her greetings,
asking:

"Are you working hard in your studies?

Are you taking good care of your mother?"

"Accompanied by the shining stars

Hand in hand,

Let us sing a beautiful song with hearts filled with happiness"

Thus calling forth to all,

The full moon painted a dream across the night sky



Contd...

WISH OF THE FULL MOON

Cruising across the sky

With a rabbit riding on her back

The kind, round moon

Warmly watches over all,

Hoping and wishing:

"Please grow up to be cheerful.

And grow up to be upright."

In the vast, serene sky,

The full moon calls forth to all:

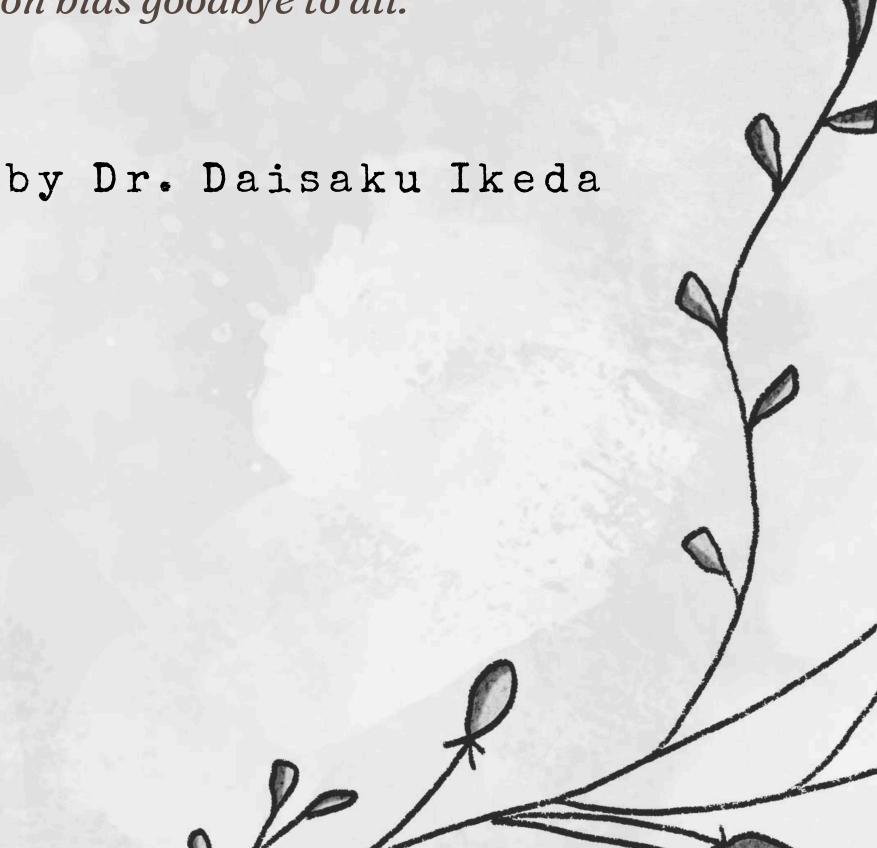
"I am always watching over you,

Sincerely awaiting for your growth."

As she heads back to the land of fairy-tale

The moon bids goodbye to all.







"YES"

When the opportunity to grow and change into something better arrives, despite your doubts and fears,

you will recall that "there is no growth in comfort."

Like an ancient triangular-shaped sail of an Arabian dhow

that catches the wind to start a journey, you will say, "Yes."

When you are granted a chance to travel to a place you have never been, to see things you have never seen,

and hear the music of another culture,

you will feel the curious Ibn Battuta adventurer in you and say, "Yes."

When your parents tell you to do something that is good for you—
and you know in your heart that they are right, even if your feelings think
otherwise—you will understand that being kind to your parents
is a sacred duty in the land you all call home. And therefore,
despite your feelings, you will say, "Yes."

When you are in a position to help the poor and elderly, the weak, the refugee, and the ill, you will recognize that even the smallest support

in a time of need can change a person's entire universe.

And because of that, you will say, "Yes."

Contd...



"YES"

When you have the chance to forgive someone,
even when the other person would not do the same,
you will understand that forgiveness is more for you than it is for them.
That is why, when forgiveness whispers, "Use me," you will reply, "Yes."
When you are overworked, overstressed, anxious, and depressed, and an
opportunity to rest and recover is presented to you,
despite your desire to soldier on,
you will put the project aside and say, "Yes."

When you are old enough to clean your own room, prepare your own food, and wash your own clothes—

especially when it will help your family—and the time comes for you to take on that responsibility,

you will say, "Yes."

When you go to bed tonight

and you have the opportunity to gift yourself the treasure of counting the blessings in your life—so that you may feel gratitude, thankfulness, and baraka-you will think of me, and say, "Yes."



by Wael Alsayegh





O PHOENIX, SOAR AND RETURN

BY SAIDA KHATIR HASSAN AL-FARSI RECITED IN ARABIC



*This is an unofficial English translation. The original poem is in Arabic

What does the cloud whisper to you When, trembling, you ascended its ambitions, Only to master the art of vanishing? To whom does it hide its rainy secret While the parched sand drinks The salt of mirage from the mirage? And the distant night's palanquins sway— (Maymoon's voice brings them to bloom), Chasing wings of desert songs. Bid farewell to (Huraira) and tread The path of departure, unshod and bare, A road of leaving without a goodbye. Maymoon, the fire of poetry adorned you, Choosing your words, pulsating and alive, When selection seemed unattainable. Soar, for the caravan of good Gifted you its unleashed fervor, Encased in luminous toil and arched agony. Soar, for the caravan of good shed tears, A sea that undulated with prayers.





Soar ... there, with the water's trembling, A wedding awaits: Its ebb and flow crowned with pride. The mermaid— An overflow of passion, The sun of poetry, A culmination of splendor. And processions of longing, Their vessels brimming with brilliance, Illuminating hearts with reverent light, While love pours its wine of rapture. There, the joys squeeze their own ecstasy. Days neither awaken nor fade. There ... there, the splendor finds its fullness. But here ... Here lies the burning of lovers,

The lost, the seekers,
Where sorrow perches its roof,
And words are ensnared in groaning.





Here, terrifying extinction resides,
A belly filled with both ice and fire.
Here, comrades
Cling to visions of reason,
Blessing the road they tread.

Let us—

Let us send you forth into love, questioning:
How did you invent death amidst the siege's grandeur?
How did you pierce the suddenness of departure?
And the question folds into the echo of itself.
How did you condense the journey of defiance?
Let us send you forth to the ecstasy of (Yamal),
Where the grief of wounds prevails.
The drums of patience beat,
Shaking off the bitterness of years.
Were you the first lover to live
A prisoner of exile?
Only her—
The strings of "Sur"—





Play love with jasmine melodies,
Singing ardently of union,
Tugging at her,
Tugging at the ribs of the seas,
Passionately spinning the guarded steps
Of a wanderer dispersing the alphabets of questions.

The song rains with the salt of memories—
The imagination trembles.
The song rains with dew,
Washing the dryness of journeys.
The sea bears the patience of children.
Oh, the pain of children!
We've come ... we've come—
And the embrace ignites.

(Oh God, Oh God, Oh God ... my Lord, Oh God, Oh God, my Master, Our Lord of estrangement, take us home.

The song rains upon the tears:

We, still children, long for our kin.





We long for a face that cries its yearning to us.
We long for the earth where our steps once wandered.
Oh God, Oh God, Oh God ... my Lord, Oh God, Oh God, my Master.)
Beat your drums, exile of the slaughtered heart!
A body ignited, rising above the mire of clay,
That marauds in its decay.
Shake off the weariness of estrangement,
O Phoenix,
Rise from the ashes of your burning.
Sing with Yamal,
Sail in the sails of yearning,
Mend the wounds that the venom of separation
Has torn open.

O Phoenix, Soar and return ...

To the lovers waiting in the aspirations of anticipation. Soar and return, cloaked in the promise of the cloud, When, trembling, you ascended its ambitions.





The clouds hoard their love until they return,
Pouring moons and dreams
Into the pain of the soil.

Soar and return, for the lovers have gathered.

And here, the companions weave

The questions of the dawn.

Soar and return, all the companions—

All the companions are waiting.

by Saida Khatir Hassan Al-Farsi





PERFECTION

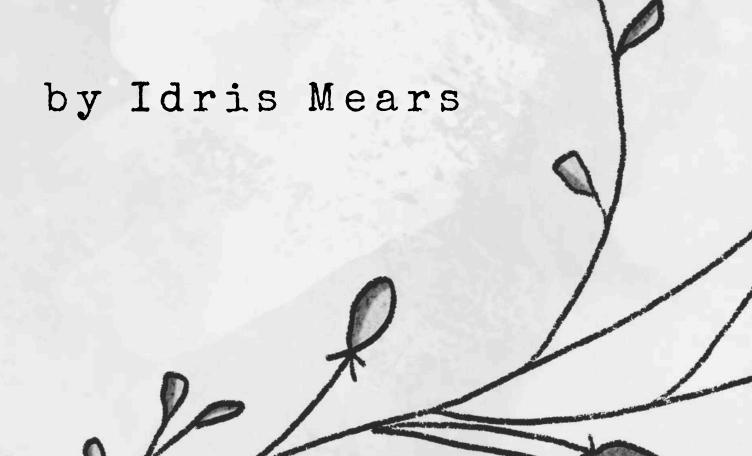
BY IDRIS MEARS



Perfection

Just as plants need the right soil and water and light and the right testing of frost and drought the age of the perfectly nurtured body in the perfect garden is thirty-three when the glow of youth meets settled maturity and until we reach the age of forty we don't have the fortitude to be perfectly at ease with ourselves and white hairs at sixty give us dignity without airs and if not perfectly stupid we start to be a little bit wise and at eighty all that is forgivable is forgiven and the age of the perfected soul is whatever time it takes to face death with no regrets.







Hafez

Tonight, you've made me your guest, Hafez, And scented lovers' paradise best, Hafez.

At dawn, when you chanted the whispers divine,

You wove mystic truths in each verse and line, Hafez.

You speak in riddles, yet clear I see— Reveal the treasure you've concealed from me, Hafez.

A night of poetry, wine, and flame— Through your divinations, I often came, Hafez.

Your words bring joy to both mosque and tavern; You make every listener a singer of stars, Hafez.

by Sedigheh (Marjan) Same





BY DR. MOHAMED ABOUELFADL BADRAN RECITED IN ARABIC



We, the Poets.

*This is an unofficial English translation. The original poem is in Arabic

We, the poets,
Cast our nets in the waters of thought,
Searching for waves in the desert's desolation.
We imagine things unseen,
Dreaming of waves rolling gently on the dunes,
Of roses blooming vast in every barren space.

We craft a moon out of Layla,
Even if her hair is gray;
We make her lovelier than all the daughters of the earth,
And grant her eyes an enchantment,
Even if they see with only one.

We, the poets,
Imagine marvels untold—
That the beloved is fairer than paradise's maidens,
That our love knows no precedent,
And our adored is unmatched among women.
If she falls silent,
Her silence speaks more eloquently than sages,
Even if she stumbles over the "S" and "Th."
We are the poets,
From Majnoon Qays to the present day,
Running endlessly after Layla in the wilderness.

Chasing illusions, Yet refusing to confess, That we were hunting fish in the sands.

We, the poets,
Fragile in spirit, feared by kings;
Angels in love, demons in strife.
We raise banners of fierce satire in battle
And embody grace in peace.

Writing names upon the sands, We are millions since Mutanabbi and Al-Khansa, Searching for the essence of essence,



Contd...

We, the Poets.

Translating your longings and laments Into verses of joy or elegies of sorrow.

We, the poets, Bleed words to keep poetry alive, And in its survival, we fade away. Owning the treasures of the world, yet poor; Knowing the essence of everything, yet restless.

We weave fictions, Invent wonders, Gift beauty to the unbeautiful, And a whisper to the silence of the desert. We stand by ruins, invoking tears And remain forever in the presence of our master—poetry, Chasing our fleeting gazelle Only to set her free again, Running in the wind, in splendor.

> We, the poets, Are madmen, Yet beloved by the wise.

> > Badran





Grandeur

Your world is not just these few suns and moons, nor merely its days and nights. You have yet to see the hidden continents of love! You are not yet the sovereign of your own mind. Fall in love! So that your soul may embrace a vastness beyond imagination. Discover one of the continents within yourself. Be the explorer of your own uncharted lands. Read the stories of millions of years of your life from the mirror of your soul, with all your being. Know this: Discover yourself! So that you may become a million times more beautiful, And a billion times more loving — Until grandeur and splendor dissolve you completely







FRIENDS

*This is an unofficial English translation. The original poem is in Arabic

I did not open the door, yet still, they entered, As if sculpted from air, transparent and pure. Without a creak, they stepped toward me, Carrying an eternity of love in their hands, Giving without a single question.

They lifted the night from my eyes, And filled them with the morning they longed for.

Gentle and kind, they approached, Bringing only joy that touches the soul.

Descending from paradise, I imagine— For they resemble it in their grace.

They are a river, quenching forever All who drink from its waters, With no lost path in its flow. They are a revelation, a sanctuary for me Whenever storms rage in my heart.

Walking beside me through the years, Their steps are my shadow, their laughter my light. Their connection to me is irreplaceable; Their embrace is my vessel when hope falters.

In their words, water revives me, Like rain blessing a parched land. They complete me—I was a crescent before them, But with them, I am a full moon, ever complete.







Stop. Go. Orange Blossom.

The tai chi seniors are out there again, under flame trees, preventing storms with hands upturned, their backs to rush hour traffic, saying 'no' to the thousand hurricanes that seed the air about them.

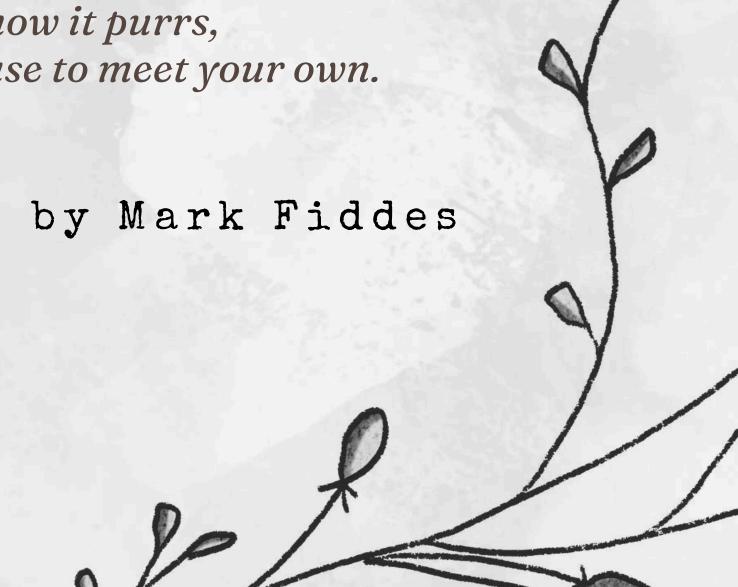
They sway at the speed of seaweed in limpid rockpools long after the tide recedes to counter fast which is the disease you catch from a city just by breathing or buying a lottery ticket.

Fast makes life buckle at intersections, turns pillows yellow with sweat, offers Apples, Apps and Amazons because Fast never wants less. Fast counts love in terabytes, then earns trillions just by being fast.

Orange blossoms have fallen on grass where the tai chi seniors glide over canyons, borders and land mines. They stroke the nothingness before them as if it were a cat about to spring off through a window.

Listen how it purrs, how its eyes refuse to meet your own.





MY CHILD!

BY KAMLESH BHATT KAMAL RECITED IN HINDI



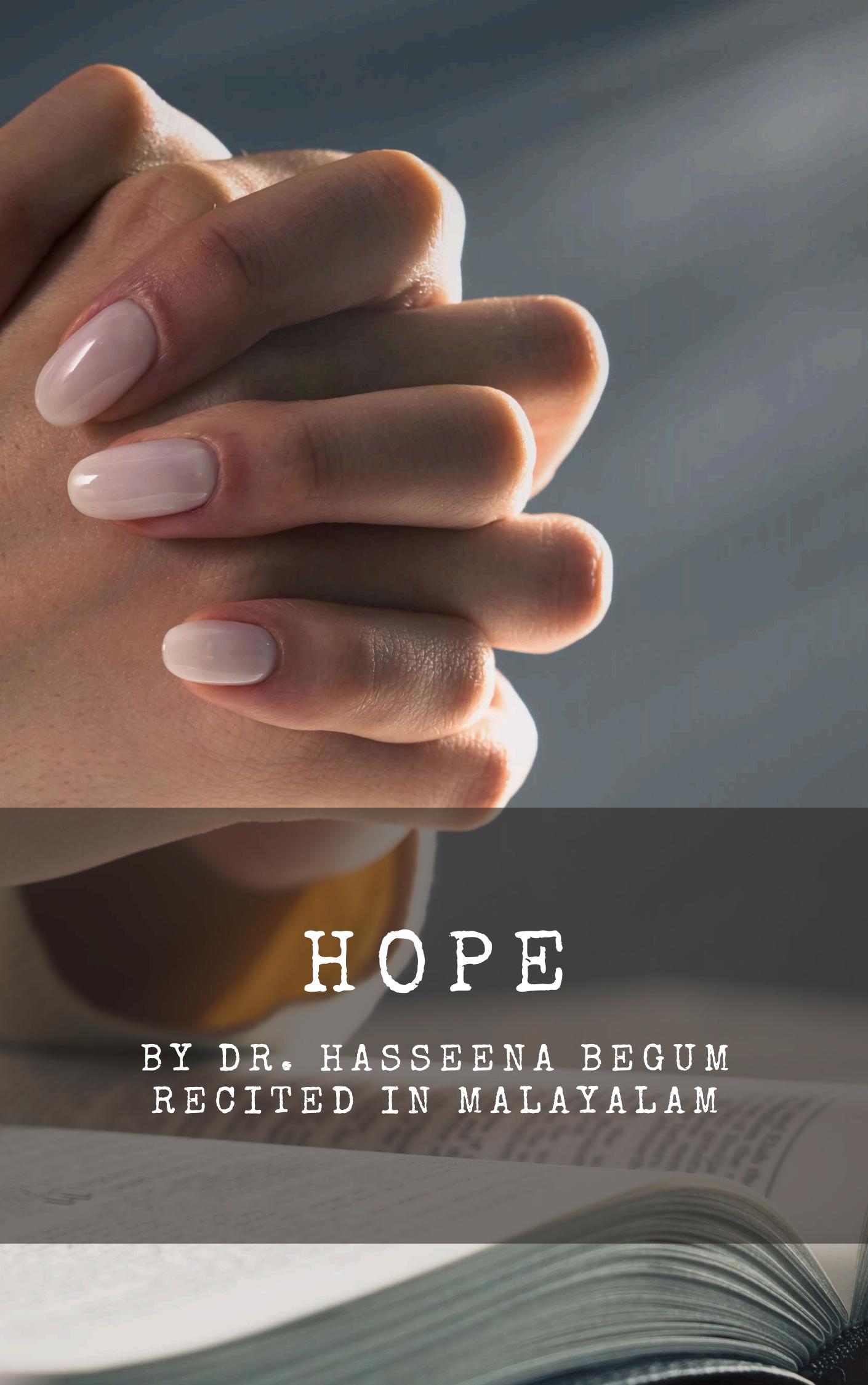
My child!

Do not think yourself alone, if difficulties arise, my child, We are with you, always, in every breath, my child! Always keep a deep desire in your heart to achieve something great, Your desires will guide you in your endeavors, my child! Wherever you may be, always remember this soil, For it is the soil in which your roots are also planted, my child! The fragrance of good deeds lingers in the air for long, May your fragrances spread and fill the world, my child! Rise, rise, and embrace all the heights of the sky, What is the earth, and what are boundaries and borders, my child! You must create history, until your journey comes to an end, It is by your strength that the world will turn a new leaf, my child! It has been ages since I've seen you with my own eyes, Tell me, how much longer will these ages last, my child! In your protection lies our protection as well, Our hearts are beating knowing you are safe and alive, my child!



by Kamlesh Bhatt Kamal





Hope

A night with the last ember flickering, The reverberations of darkness filling the eyes, Amidst the feeling of life slipping away, A blink of an eye—a tender arrival of hope.

Even amidst shattered dreams,
Comes a moment like the breeze of renewal,
Like the soft whispers of love breathing life
Into withered words.

Though the heart may falter in despair, When a tiny sprout of hope emerges, On the waves of life's tides, A new melody is heard.

Even if dusk darkens the horizon,
The morning star awaits with light long desired.
When touched by the rays of hope,
It offers solace to forget the yesterdays.

Life is endless, even through scorched times,
Every day brimming with hope,
Rising in the distance like a steadfast companion—
That is hope, the eternal breath of life.







Soil

A wave of unending grief
Swept past the tip of my fingers;
Dripping onto the forgotten mosaic,
As I tried to hold the pleats
To my grandmother's saree,
A useless aid
To her trembling hands.

A wave of unbearable vulnerability
Shone like rust
Beneath my eyelids
As I hid behind the shawl;
A testimony to my roots
I'd tried so desperately
To rip myself out of.
Rather, ripped out of.

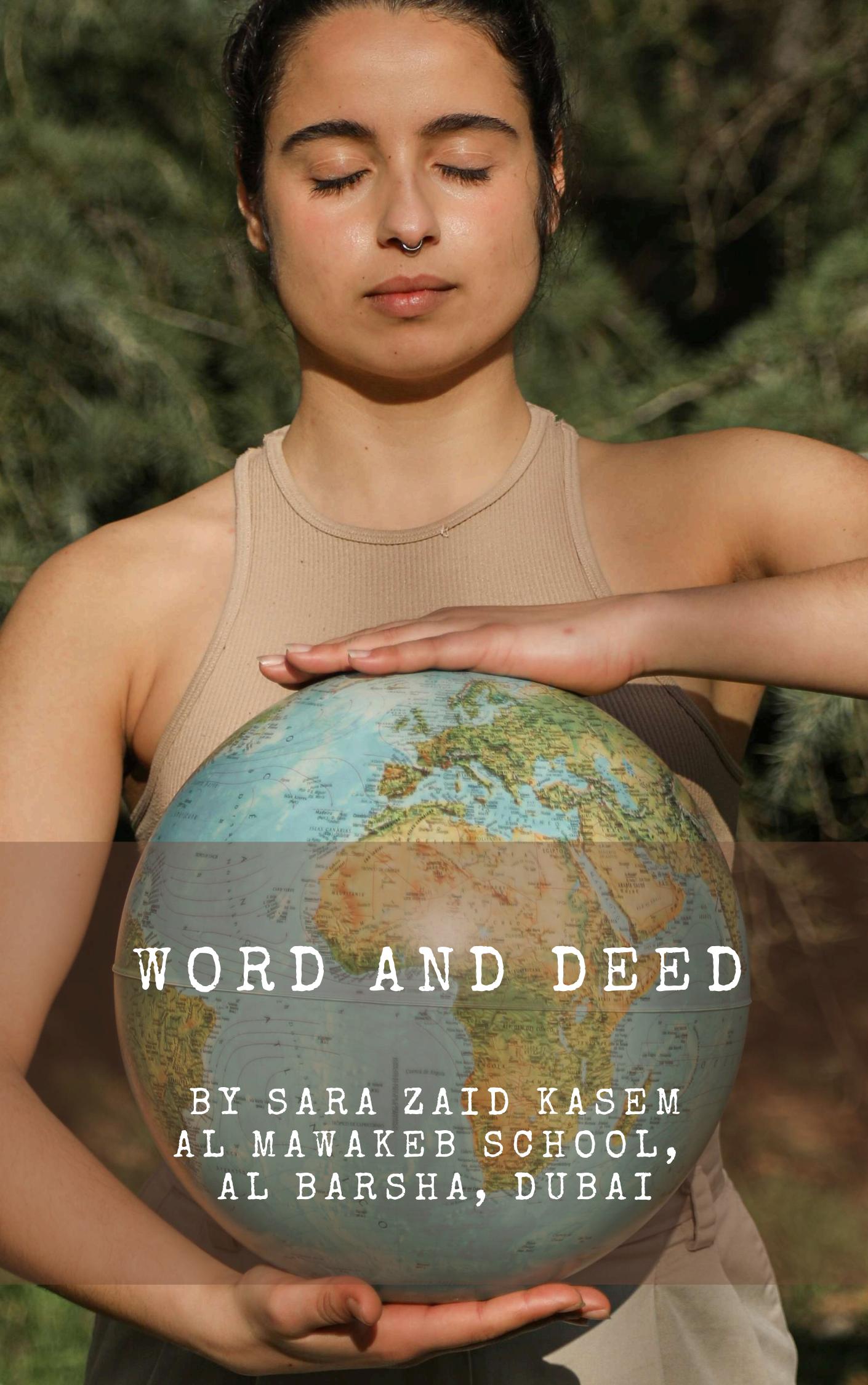
Was I disgusted
By the mold in the olding corners
Or by my absolute inability
To handle normality?

Unbelonging there, Unbelonging here.

What is homeland
If not where flowers of others bloom
And flowers of yours wilt,
Wilt,
And wilt.

by Thahaani Hashir





WORD AND DEED

In his establishments, poems are beautiful

A magnificent structure for the glory of a sheikh

His great level praised objectives

So long does glory and joy last

And in the highest places, our pride is exalted

We planted and worked hard to harvest

So that we always get the first ranks

People's hearts are in love with glories

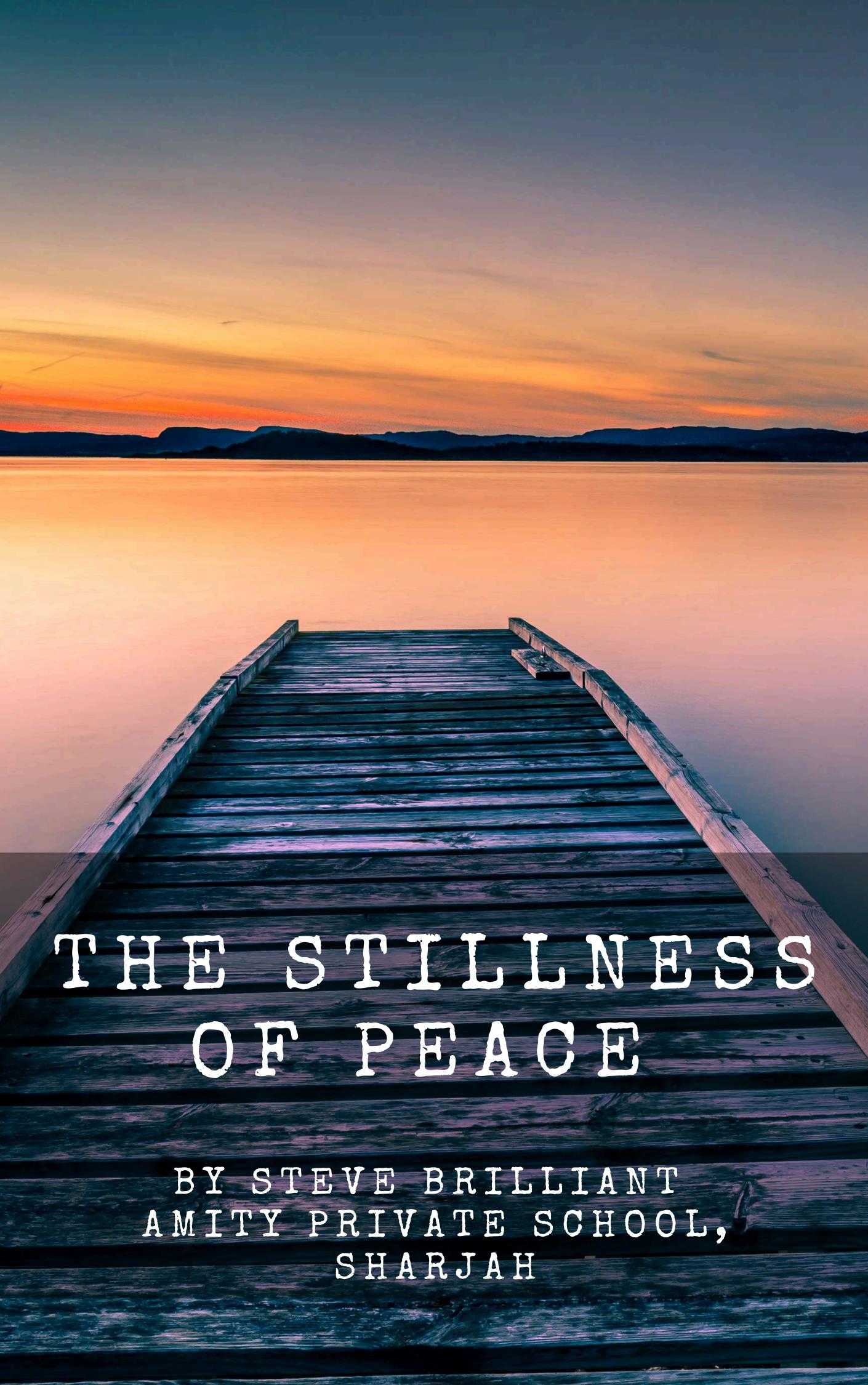
And our flag decorated the skies of the homelands

Our story has become the most pleasant and delightful masterpiece

With Zayed's determination, we became the vanguard







The Stillness of Peace

It's the rustle of the leaves in an ancient grove, The quiet embrace of the skies above.

it whispers low in the break of dawn,
A promise kept as the night moves on,
In the heartbeat of earth, in its soft refrain,
Peace heals the scars of grief and pain.

It dwells in the eyes of a newborn's gaze,
And in the golden glow of sunlit days,
In the Clasp of Hands, in the kindest word,
In the silent Flight of a soaring bird.

Peace is not absence but fullness of soul,
A harmony binding the fractured whole.
It calls for love, for hearts to mend,
For hate to cease, for wars to end.

May we Nurture its seed with tender care, And Plant it deep where hope is rare For in its bloom, the world shall see, Peace is the song that sets us free.



by Steve Brilliant Amity Private School, Sharjah



THE LIGHT WE CARRY

BY FHIONNA GHAVRIELLE ARIZALA TAPIA FAR EASTERN PRIVATE SCHOOL, AL SHAHBA, SHARJAH

The Light We Carry

Do you remember the first time darkness swallowed the room?

The kind of dark that feels endless,

Where shadows curl into themselves,

And the air grows heavy with silence.

In that moment, it wasn't the absence of sight that

struck you—

It was the absence of certainty.

Then came a light.

Not the roar of the sun,

Not a food that

drowned the dark,

But a fragile flicker

in trembling hands.

It wasn't much—just enough.

Enough to steady your breath,

Enough to guide your next step.

That is the nature of hope.

It is not a grand bonfire,

Not a beacon blazing across horizons.

It is a single match struck in defiance,

A quiet rebellion against despair.



Contd...

The Light We Carry

Hope lives in the smallest gestures:
The hand that reaches out when you stumble,
The stranger who smiles when the world feels too cruel,
The seed planted in barren soil
Because someone dared to believe
That it might grow.

And it is not for the unbroken.

No, hope belongs to those

Who carry scars like maps

And yet still walk forward.

It belongs to the ones who rise again,

Their knees scraped, their voices hoarse,

But their hearts aflame.

Hope is stubborn.

It survives in places where it has no right to be—

In war zones and hospital beds,

In prison cells and funeral halls.

It lives in the eyes of a child

Who sees the stars

Even when the sky is covered in smoke.



by Fhionna Ghavrielle
Arizala Tapia
Far Eastern Private School,
Al Shahba, Sharjah



LIGHT OF HOPE

BY RAWDHA ALKAMLI GREENWOOD INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL, DUBAI

Light of Hope

In the darkest night, a glimmer remains, A spark of light that soothes your pain. When reality dims, and hope seems lost, A light still inside you never exhausts.

Through storms above, through shadows below,

Tears will dry, and you'll find a glow.

A gentle push, a hand to guide,

It's the bridge to cross, leaving worries aside.

In the silence deep, when the world feels cold,

The fire inside you fierce and bold.

It whispers softly, it calls you near,

A strength that rises, overcoming fear.

In moments of doubt, when you feel alone,
The light within you has always grown.
With every step forward, through thick and thin,
You'll discover the courage to start again.
For in your heart, through every fight,
Hope remains, a glow of light.



By Rawdha Alkamli Greenwood International School, Dubai



UNBROKEN FLAME

BY HANEEN FAKRY
AMERICAN PRIVATE SCHOOL
OF KALBA, SHARJAH



Unbroken Flame

Hope is the thread that binds the fray,

The spark that ignites
a smothered day.
When shadows coil and
hearts collapse,
It carves a path where
none perhaps.

It wears no crown, no sword in hand,
Yet moves the earth,
reclaims the land.
Through storms that batter, skies that wail,
Hope stands steady, it
will not pale.

It whispers soft in the deafening roar, A quiet knock on a bolted door.

It drips like rain through cracks of stone, Fills empty cups, mends broken bone.





Unbroken Flame

In barren fields where nothing grows,

It plants a seed

beneath the snows.

Through winter's

wrath, through ice's sting,

Hope waits patient, it

knows spring.

When all is ash, and dreams take flight,
Hope rekindles the fiercest light.
Not fragile, not fleeting, not just in part—It is the fire within the heart.

Hope is eternal, though unseen or small— The deepest root, the mightiest call. A bridge, a beacon, a steadfast flame— In its embrace, we rise again.



by Haneen Fakry
American Private School
of Kalba, Sharjah

PURE SELFLESS & UNCONDITIONAL

BY VARSHA SANTOSH ELITE ENGLISH SCHOOL, DUBAI



Pure selfless and unconditional

Through the highs and lows
Her love only only grows
During the cold, like a sweater
No gift on the earth would be greater
and when all things are measured
Her love stays boundless

If i could give you diamonds
For tears you shed for me
If i could give you sapphires
For each time you held me
If i could give you pearls
For the warmth of your arms

Then mother dear
You will have a treasure
That would mount up to the skies
that would almost match
The sparkle in your loving eyes
For I'm sure you are the best
To my heart



by Varsha Santosh Elite English School, Dubai



Future Full of Light

And at dawn's break, quiet moves serenely.
Soft breezes blow around, amidst the morning dew.
In the arms of peace, the world catches a breath.
A soft beat, the heart's real search.

A stranger and an alien even together,
A unanimous foe and a foe now
Harmony grows where pity is.
Like rivers of love whereby the soul grows.

Earth, a mother with boundless care, endless travail, Cradles all life, her treasures rare. Her forests whisper, her oceans sing. An eternal bond between everything.

Our help for one another strengthens friendship.
When we hear, care, and understand.
We share laughter together, tears together.
We help each other rise high together.

Hope is a light which never goes off.

A soft light in the darkest hour.

Only through patience do we find our path.

In building a better peaceful world thereafter.

We work every day with a calm heart.

A place where everyone,
Whoever, can enjoy their lives.
Together, let's protect and care.
Bring together a bright world we all can share.



by Aryaman Singh Emirates International School Meadows, Dubai



A RAY OF HOPE

BY VIDYUTH BALAJI DELHI PRIVATE SCHOOL, DUBAI

A Ray of Hope

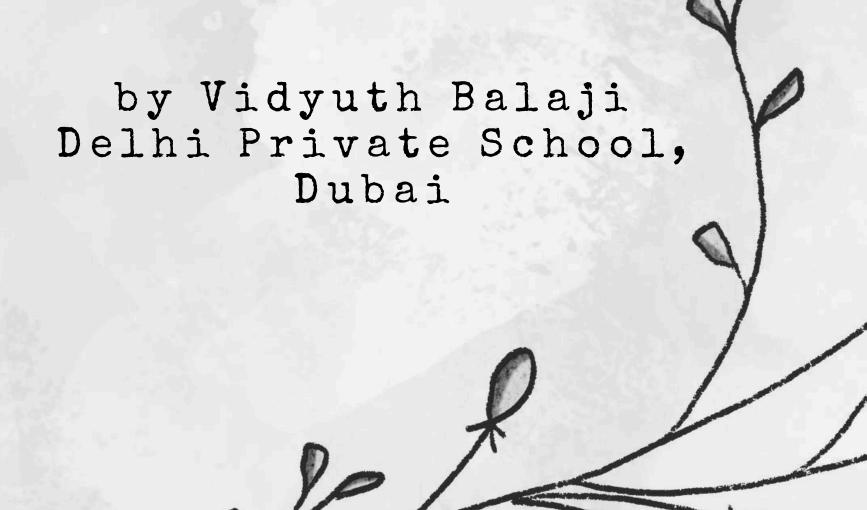
Above all conflicts stands an unbroken ocean of blue, Peace has lovingly beckoned us to shoo.

In an intricate manner, varied strands seamlessly graft, Diverse people collectively join hearts in a single draft.

Meanwhile, the painted earth rests
and her trees sob,
Polluted by us, the irresponsible mob.
A ray of hope remains,
A solitary beam of light brings flowers,
With gentle hands and focused wills, we use our powers.
Through trust, our strong bonds overshadow the vast void,
A flicker of hope shines within deep shadows and darkness paranoid.
Sustainability is our last hope,
We should grasp onto it like a flailing rope.

Our Mother Earth nourishes nature's resources,
Which undoubtedly are our greatest forces.
One's audacious ambition rises to the peak of one's head,
With rock-solid belief, let's aim to go straight ahead.
And let us bring together this holy tale,
Where every head and heart provides strength to sail!







Sonder

Sonder,

the feeling when you realise that every person is living a different and a complex life of their own at the same time.

To watch someone else pick out a bouquet of roses, while throwing away your pile of old flowers.

To be mesmerised by the kids around who know nothing of the world and just find beauty in it, while shedding your own life of tears.

Hopeful, isn't it?

To think of the light in a stranger's life even if your own is much darker.

Realising that in the world full of trenches and turmoil, you are merely a gentle breeze.

In the universe of prose and words that cut deep, you are merely one of the poets.

Sonder

is to write an empty moment into the verses that feel like magic to everyone else,

while the poet silently wishes for once to be the poem instead.

But that's the beauty of it,

the poet can turn any image into a verse if it speaks enough to them.





Sonder

Maybe in the rush of the rest of the world, us, the poets, are the ones who create the feeling of sonder.

"Poetry is what we stay alive for."

stated John Keating to group of kids wishing to learn to live.

And in teaching them the beauty of life,

Created a haven of verses and visions that made them thrive.

That is what poets are, Even in the darkest of times, we live for the hope of it all.

> by Nilanjana Saha S.P. Jain School Of Global Management, Dubai







BY SYED MURTAZA GEMS MILLENNIUM SCHOOL SHARJAH

Flicker of Hope

Ah, truly so...
Determination, life's bright fire,
Can lift us high or pull us dire.
A gamble bold, both dark and light,
Our fate doth rest within its might.

O heart that breaketh yet endureth still, Thou climb's the hill, though shadows grow so chill. The path is steep, the winds unkind, Oh yet in thy soul, an essence we find.

> Yet lo, within thy tears there lies, A power that doth the night despise. Though Fate doth mock, and so betrays, Thou riseth still, come break of day

For thou art forged in trial's flame,
Thy scars but whisper thy steadfast name.
Let grief bend but not undo,
For from the dust, thou shalt renew.

Hold fast, brave soul,
the end's not near,
Thy light shall pierce the dark severe.
And when the dawn unveils its hue,
The world shall bow to the flame of you



by Syed Murtaza Gems Millennium School Sharjah



HARMONY UNITES US

BY SYEDA ZAINAB SUNRISE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL AL KARAMAH, ABU DHABI

Harmony Unites Us

In a world filled with vibrant hues, Harmony weaves us into a single mues. A song feels hollow without its symphony, Just as we falter without harmony. To thrive, we must seek to understand, And reach for one another's hand. Harmony shines in nature's grace, In peaceful moments or danger, we face. It binds us through life's grand adventure, A force unseen, yet a steadfast structure. In a life of hurdles and winding turns, Hope is the flame that gently burns. The cries of despair may fill the air But harmony helps us rise and care. It's in the songbirds' sweet refrain, In the cool caress of gentle rain. Harmony flows where waves kiss the shore, In autumn leaves, they flutter once more. Living alone in a world of fear, Harmony's warmth draws us near. Problems seem lighter, burdens less, When touched by harmony's gentle caress .Life is fleeting, a single chance, A fleeting waltz, a brief romance. As a song is empty without symphony, So are we without harmony. In a world awash with vibrant hues, Harmony unites us steady and true The stranger who smiles when the world feels too cruel,

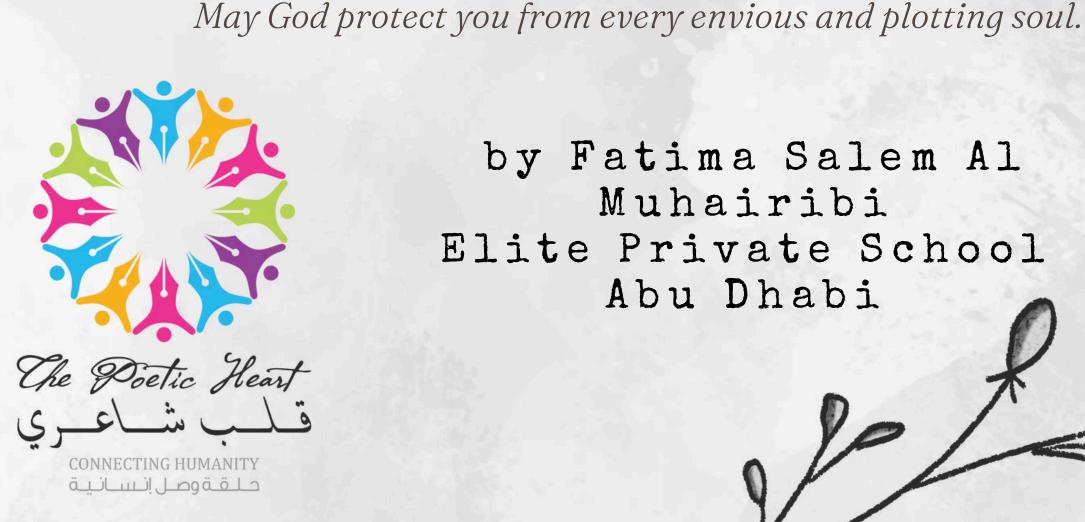


by Syeda Zainab Sunrise International School AL Karamah, Abu Dhabi



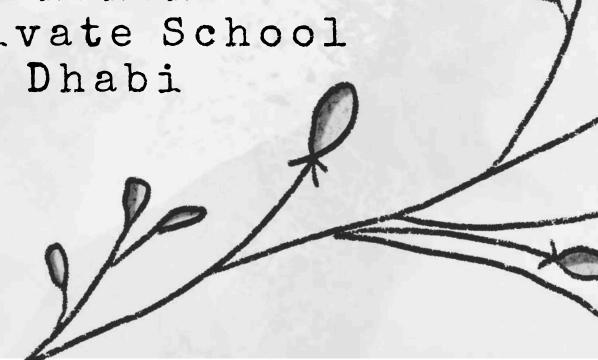
Leader

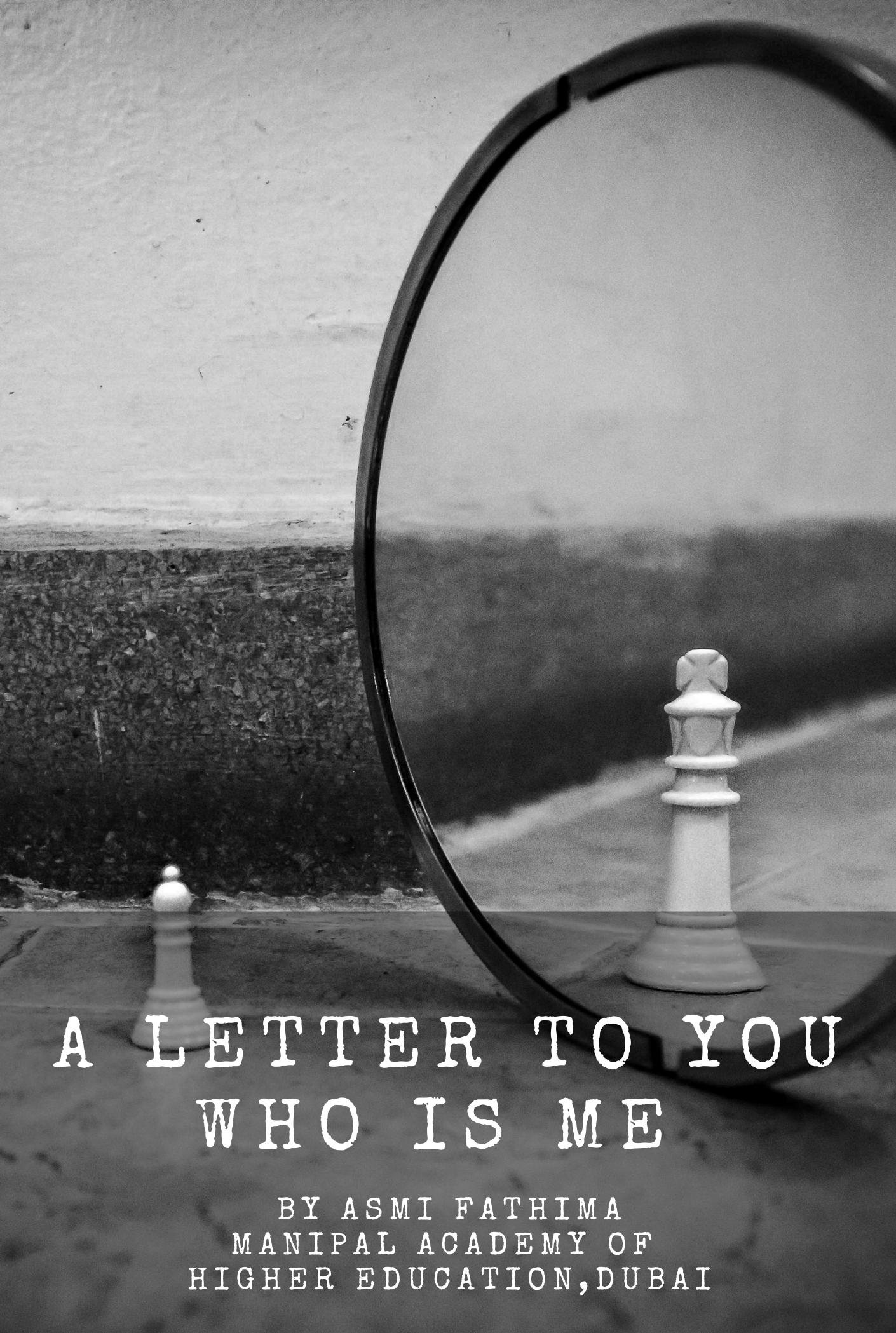
May God have mercy on the leader like no other, A crown of pride for the Arabs, truly a leader. Zayed, who defied the impossible, Challenged hardships, dangers, and trials. Zayed, full of goodness, loyalty, and noble origin, A symbol of tolerance and harmony, this is what we say and testify. The Sheikh of generosity and giving, creator of every generation, Gone and yet still leading the headlines of newspapers. Zayed said it, and he created a beautiful legacy, A name known for experience, giving, and benefits. If we tried to fulfill his rights, we would fall short, Even if we wrote entire volumes of poetry about him. Zayed left us in the month of separation, Yet his presence continues to celebrate his people. All nations wept, and this was the greatest proof, Of their love for him and their sorrow for his loss—Zayed, Zayed. Zayed never left, even after his departure, He remains in the heart, his voice always echoing. Whenever Zayed is remembered, the heart heals, May God place him among the gardens of paradise. And protect his followers, who are under his shade, Approaching his people, preserving the traditions. O Lord, grant him a long life, To always protect the homeland, with justice and righteousness. Abu Khaled, the man of noble nature, We would sacrifice our souls for him, may his years be many.



by Fatima Salem Al Muhairibi Elite Private School Abu Dhabi

Long live my country, and the flag never tilts,





A letter to you who is me

As I lay on my bed, I think to myself About the day gone by
Was it worth my time? Or did I fail myself?
Of all the things I did, and all the things I've said
Was I proud of myself?

Or in envy of someone else? Why didn't I do this, why didn't I do that! Frustration engulfs me, irritating arms, Regret downs me as I lay there self-loathing
But then comes this feeling, this feeling to do better.

Tired of always running away, And hiding in the thoughts cluttered.

Suddenly I want to break free, free from all these shackles; Shackles of regret, Shackles of Comfort I will make a change, I will be the change

I will not give up on myself

I'm determined to make it work Even if I break, even if I fall

I am determined to make it work

I will run if I have to, crawl if I need to

On this Ladder of Life

I will aim for the stars

Soar for the Sky,

I will steer the wheels of destiny strong. Now I lay, there on my bed,

isses my eves as I promise to myself

Sleep kisses my eyes as I promise to myself,

The me from the future, the me gone by I am determined to make it work Make it work for me;

make it work for you.





ECHOING THE SOUL OF TOLERANCE

BY ALTHEA PHYLLIS
THE NEW FILIPINO SCHOOL
SHARJAH



Echoing the Soul of Tolerance

What is a soul but a delicate flame, Dancing softly, no two the same? A fragile hope, a bold desire, Unmoved by hate's consuming fire. It speaks in silence, calm yet clear, Not inked on paper but hearts sincere, Weathered by storms, yet still they glow, A quiet strength the world may not know. It's not a fleeting act or guise, But a revolution, where truth lies— Embracing the world, its scars and grace, Learning to see beyond the face. The soul must shatter to truly mend, To let go of pride and begin again. In chaos's roar, where voices fight, Tolerance blooms as the source of light. Each soul's a spark in an endless blaze, A unique reflection of countless rays. It whispers softly, "There's room for all, "A humble answer to division's call. For every voice holds a story deep, Each heart is a treasure we're meant to keep. It asks for courage, patience, and care, And a love that dares to meet despair. So let the flame of kindness rise, A light that pierces shadowed skies. A beacon strong, a guiding star, To remind us all of who we are

by Althea Phyllis
The New Filipino School
Sharjah

The Poetic Heart

حلقة وصل إنسانية



Last Echoes of Peace

Everything was in silence, as the world outside raged with violence. The walls marred with blood stains, and people with their eyes dull in pain. A voice breaks through the void, an angelic voice through my heart. There sits a soul - a daughter, a mother, her beauty to put Aphrodite in shame, to make Sappho envy me in vain. The melody dances with her words as my mind sways to the song. Oh, dear mother, your voice dulls the world. So, as wisteria grows, let my eyes close and one last time, with peace, I let go...

> by Keertana Abu Dhabi Indian School Muroor-Girls, Abu Dhabi





HARMONY AND PEACE

BY SWEN BIERCE
ABU DHABI INDIAN SCHOOL
MUROOR - BOYS, ABU DHABI

Harmony and Peace

I close my eyes, the world is wide, A place where harmony can abide. In every breath, in every sound, I feel the peace that wraps me 'round. The sun is low, the air is still, A quiet moment, soft and chill. The rustling leaves, the distant birds, Speak a language deeper than words. We've seen the wars, the pain, the grief, But still, there's hope beyond belief. For when we choose to care, to see, The world can bloom in peace, set free. So let us plant, and let it be, A world of peace, like roots of a tree. For in the end, when hearts are free, We'll live as one, in harmony.



By Swen Bierce Abu Dhabi Indian School Muroor - Boys, Abu Dhabi



HOPE

BY PLAKSHA GOSWAMI
THE INDIAN INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL,
DSO, DUBAI

Hope

They say hope is the brightest star in a dark night, But I don't think it's true Hope isn't just a flicker, distant and cold; It's the warmth of a smile, the gold in the old Hope is the crumble of leaves in autumn's decay, The whisper of if in the fabric of life's play It's the melody of running water's flow, The silent promise in the seeds we sow We mistake hope for something so small, When it's infinity, the heart of it all. It's the green of the leaves, the salt in the sea, The hug of assurance that lets us be free It's a semicolon in the middle of a decree, A pause that says there's more to be It's the brown of my eyes, the light in my smile, The fire within that carries me a mile Hope is my euphoria, my infinite spree - Hope is the very essence of me.



By Plaksha Goswami
The Indian International
School, DSO, Dubai

WHISPERS OF THE DAWN

BY DISHIKA CHOUDHARY
GEMS NEW MILLENNIUM SCHOOL, DUBAI



Whispers of the Dawn

In a farther land of darkness,
A gentle flicker of hope enlightens, like
chemtrails lingering in the sky, filling the
dawn's skies with its highest glow. (Or highs)
Hopes rises, shining bright, A new beginning
starts here,

Rising with the sun's light, pushing the darkness far away....

Whispering gently, calm and bright, Overwhelming souls through the nights of dawn.

Hope staying steady, never fading like the nature's beauty.

Through the skies, a promise stands, carried on the wind's hands.

No fear can stop it, HOPE is freedom, wearing the believer's crown!!







SPARKS OF HOPE

BY HAMDAN ESSA AMERICAN SCHOOL OF CREATIVE SCIENCE, DUBAI

Sparks of Hope

In the darkest night, when shadows show, A spark of hope will quietly shine.

Through whispered winds and dark skies, It makes a tune, a special tune.

The barren fields, the fallow plains, Drink from the tears of the sad rains.

But in the soil where sorrow fall, A seed of strength starts to grow.

Hope is the light that shines the dark, A shining light in the darkened air.

It climbs the cliffs of doubt and fear, Through the storms that lash the wild, It holds the weary like a child.

A flicker, a beacon, a shining armor,
Hope endures, untouched, untamed.
For every heart that hurts,
Hope is the gift the soul has left.
It teaches birds to fly,
And turns despair to endless love.



By Hamdan Essa American School of Creative Science, Dubai



BY SANA NOMAN AL SADIQ ISLAMIC ENGLISH SCHOOL, DUBAI

Where I begin & you end

When the light within my heart begins to flicker,

on the verge of shattering, you mend it whole.
You rebuild me with blocks of ironstrong and unyielding, untouched by time.

You sculpt me, piece by piece,
like a statue forged in the heart of a storm.
With each word uttered, a seed emerges,
elevating me from the clustered surface.

Moments with you are like fleeting

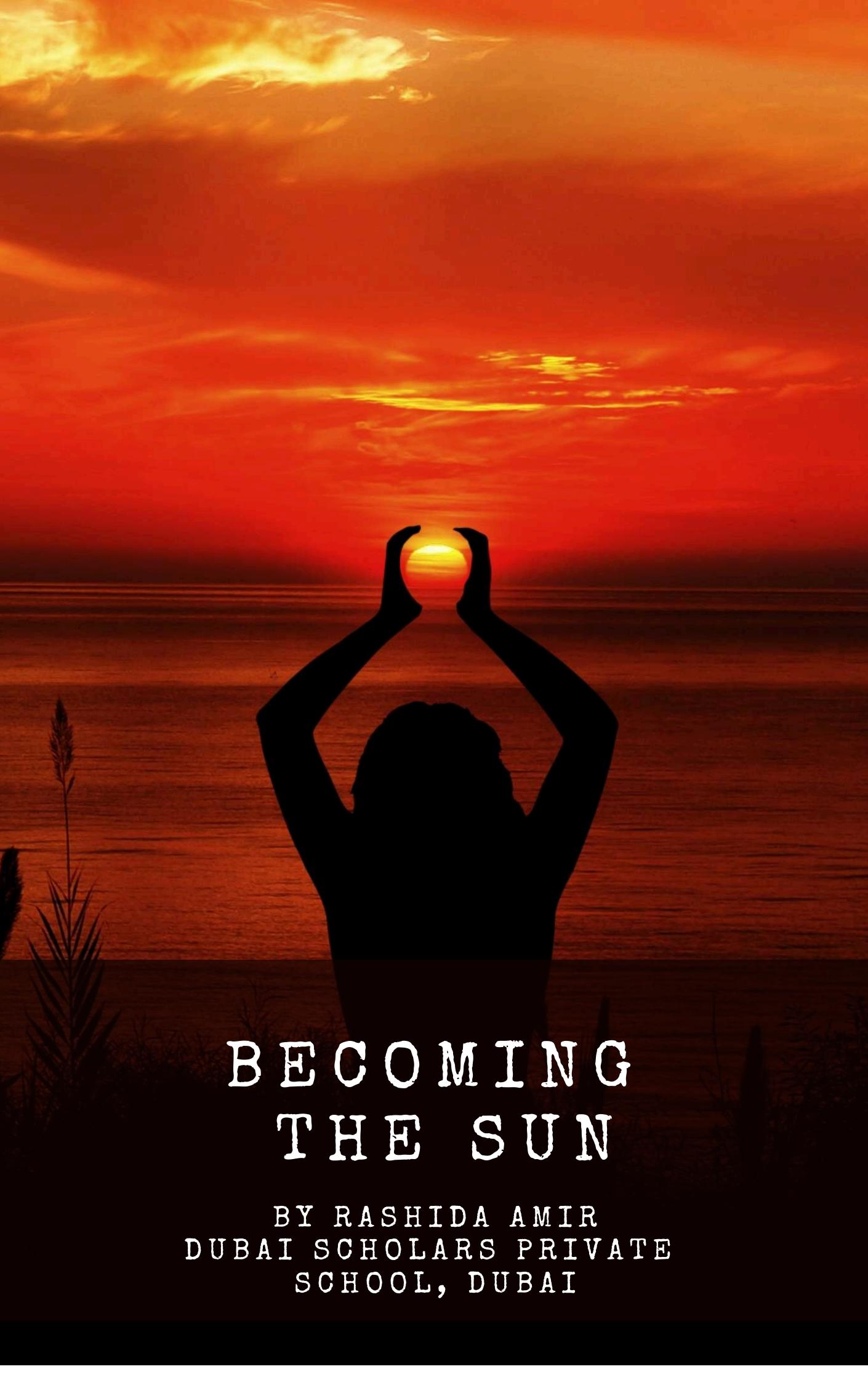
Moments with you are like fleeting constellations,

appearing in the vastness of the night, each one burning with a brilliance so rare, leaving imprints on the fabric of my being.

Alas, this life is only a canvas, brushed with the hues of passing time— a masterpiece painted in fragments of you, where every stroke holds eternity within its moment.



by Sana Noman Al Sadiq Islamic English School, Dubai



Becoming the Sun

I wasn't born with gold in my veins, just the dim light of an overcast dawn;

a child of shadows reaching for light, that slipped through cracks too small to hold.

The sun was a stranger, distant yet warm, as I stared at it outside my window.

A radiance I couldn't wear, not with this skin of paper and heart of ash.

The light bent through the glass, a soft glow in the stillness.

It scattered across the room in fragments, making stars out of every speck of dust.

I wondered, if the sun could shatter itself to reach me, why couldn't I?

So I learnt the art of burning. First, I burnt the walls of comfort, then, I burnt the fear of shattering. The fire grazed my skin,

it melted me from within. I thought I'd break; I did. In breaking, I bled gold. Not like the sun, or even a star; just bright enough to warm the handsthat once reached out for light.

And now I rise, not above, but within. The sun isn't a distant thing,

it's the light I leave behind. It's contradictory, isn't it? To burn and not be destroyed; to rise even as you're falling apart.

But maybe that is what hope is, not the promise of radiance but the choice to believe you can become it.



by Rashida Amir Dubai Scholars Private School, Dubai



ODE TO MOTHERHOOD

BY MAITHA GHALEB ALMHEIRI VIRGINIA INTERNATIONAL PRIVATE SCHOOL, DUBAI

Ode to Motherhood

In the quiet dawn, a gentle sigh, A heart awakens, the day draws nigh.
With tender hands and a loving gaze, She weaves her magic in myriad ways.

Her arms, a heaven, where worries cease, A soothing balm that brings sweet peace. Through sleepless nights and whispered fears, She cradles dreams, she dries the tears.

Her laughter dances like sunlight's gleam, A melody woven through every dream.

In her embrace, the world feels whole, A fortress built from love, a nurturing soul.

With strength like mountains, she stands so tall, Through storms of life, she'll never fall. Her wisdom flows like a river wide, Guiding the lost, a constant guide.

She teaches grace in a world so wild, In every struggle, she's the brave child. With every sacrifice, she plants her seed, A garden of hope, where love will lead.

So here's to the mothers, the fierce and the kind, The quite warriors, with hearts aligned. In every heartbeat, in every sigh, A tribute to mothers, who reach for the sky.



by Maitha Ghaleb Almheiri Virginia International Private School, Dubai



NOSTALGIA

BY HAMDAH KHALED NASER ALSHKEILI ADNOC SCHOOL, SAS AL NAKHL, ABU DHABI

Whispers of Nostalgia

Childhood's days, bathed in golden light, Beneath cerulean skies, our dreams took flight.

Bounding through emerald meadows, so pristine, Laughter rippling, like a timeless, tranquil stream.

Oh, how I yearn for youthful bliss,

When innocence was mine to kiss.

The taste of candy on my tongue,

And skipping ropes where friendships sprung.

Those summer nights, so warm and long, Full of tales and whispered songs.

Catching fireflies in a jar, Chasing dreams beneath the stars.

The old oak tree, a trusted friend, Where secrets were exchanged, never to fade.

We ascended its branches, dauntless and high, With fearless hearts that brushed the sky.

Moments frozen, like photograph, Of family gatherings, filled with laughs.

Grandma's kitchen, aromas divine, As stories flowed, like rays of sweet sunshine.

But as the years, they swiftly flow, Nostalgia's grip will always grow. Though seasons change, and time moves on, In memories, the past lives on. So let us cherish days gone by, Embrace nostalgia's gentle sigh. For in those moments, we are whole, And find the comfort of the soul.



By Hamdah Khaled Naser Alshkeili ADNOC School, Sas Al Nakhl, Abu Dhabi



CATHELYN NHLANHLA MAPUMULO GEMS AMERICAN ACADEMY, ABU DUBAI

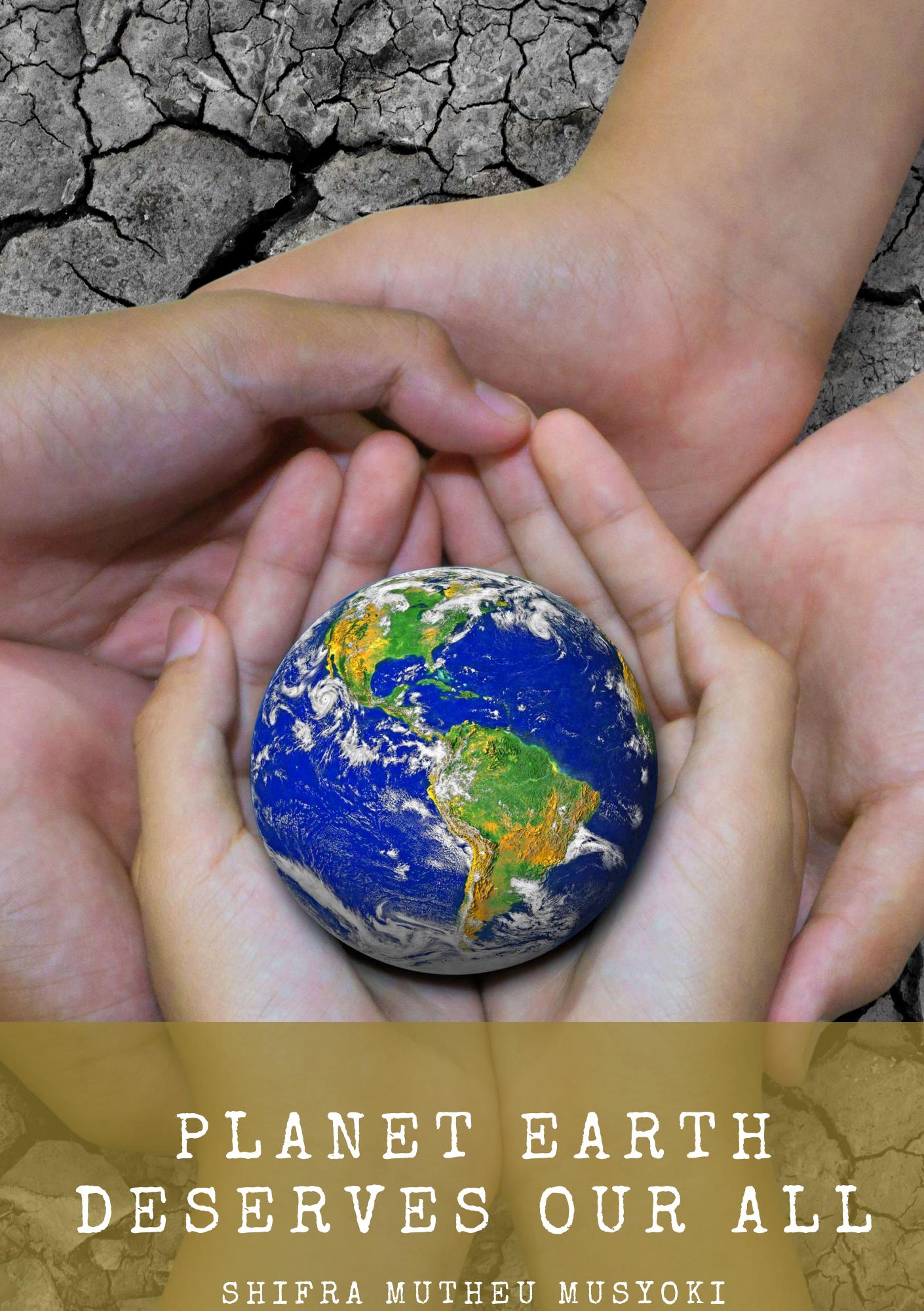
My Friend

When my skies were dark,
And my days were dim,
You appeared,
a candle,
Shining the way.

sparking joy,
bringing light,
your smile a comfort in pain,
your shoulders my refuge in hurt,
with laughter chasing clouds away,
kindness touching every part,
now colors bloom where darkness fell,
grateful for this path we share,
a journey of love with a friend who cares.

Cathelyn Nhlanhla Mapumulo





THE WESTMINSTER SCHOOL, DUBAI

Planet Earth deserves our all

Should we treat Mother Nature like she's just a game of chess, A game of wits, a game of chance, where one wins, not the rest. Where rooks and queens make the big moves, and pawns endure the most

And when it's done, "Well, that was fun!" "C'mon, I was so close!!"

Reset the board and play again, but Earth is not the same;
We can't continue like this—We can't act like she's a game.
"So what?" you ask, "It's not like we can turn this ship around!
The Amazon is burning, and the Maldives might be drowned."
You're right—we've seen more catastrophic events come to
pass,

Antarctica? It melts as we emit more natural gas We're on our way to reach the 1.5 mark at this rate, But while we cannot stop it, we can surely mitigate

"You really think that planting trees will curb this heating curve?"

Much more than that—but yes, small changes make the biggest serve

The 80s ban on CFCs repaired the ozone hole Reforestation, innovation, can help us reach our goal So while the road is long, and we have yet to fix our ways Planet Earth deserves our all to see brighter days



by Shifra Mutheu Musyoki The Westminster School, Dubai



ISTAND

BY VIANNA ALBINA LOBO PRIVATE INTERNATIONAL ENGLISH SCHOOL, ABU DHABI



In her steps, I stand

In her eyes, a story told, A tapestry of dreams, life unfolds, With hopes that time could never molder, Walks she fearless, Stronger and bolder. Her dark tresses cascaded over her shoulders, Soft as silk and yet strong as boulders. Her laughter echoed like a melody sweet, A sound that puts the heart at ease. In her warm embrace, the world feels right, From a melancholic to an ecstasy turns the night. With every step, she leads the way, A dauntless warrior who never goes astray. Her sacrifice, a silent song, A melody that plays so long. She gives her all, yet asks for none, Leaving her vivid dA promise kept, A life she makes, With every step, a path she stakes. Yet her eyes, with fire a blazing light,

With every step, a path she stakes.
Yet her eyes, with fire a blazing light,
Stands she with confidence, strength, and might.
Yes,

That's none other than my mother,
A heart of gold, like no one other.
In every step, I find my way,
For she is the reason that I am today.
reams left undone.

by Vianna Albina Lobo Private International English School, Abu Dhabi



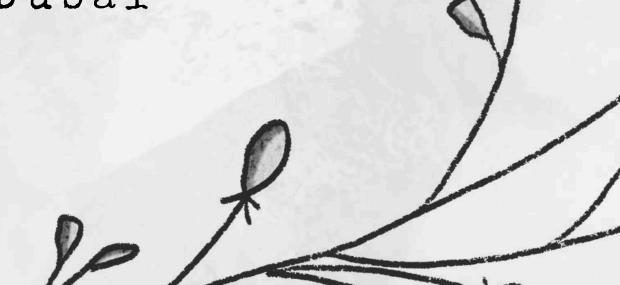


Gentle plea of the earth

Beneath the sky of cerulean shade, The earth breathes in nature's cool breeze. The stories of life, both old and new, The melodic dance of trees and seas, Each time with new moves for every breeze, Remains a treasure in Nature's heart. The rivers flow like heartbeats, While the forest calmly sings, Mountains residing as ancient treasure, These silent quardians always stay nurtured. But how long till always is nurtured? Today, once or twice in a rush, Fleeting like footsteps, gone in a hush. The cry of nature, a ringing sound, The mother's anguish, as the earth plays its role. Pleading for life, cries the earth, "What blunder I have made to deserve this birth? I have given you free will, Yet fate whispers as you twist the rules." A glance at nature says it all, The scars we've laid, the paths we've made. As the air, water, and green come to an end, Betrayal declared for Earth's less time to spend. Yet, hope is replenished in nature's heart. We can make a change if we try to mend. Mother Nature's grace, still believing in our place, Nature will cure if we defend. For every tree, celebration lies, How we return nature's kindness. Let's stand and fight to guard Mother Earth, And bring her back to flawless light.



by Ananya Areesh Woodlem Park School, Dubai





The Hope of Existence

Peace rises softly, like dawn on the sea, A silent reminder of what we can be. No need for violence, no need for fear, Its harmony's song, it draws us near.

The earth hums beneath our feet,
Mountains stand tall, rivers repeat:
"Guard what is sacred, nurture the land,
In friendship's circle, take each hand in hand."

Hope lights the path through shadowed skies, A spark in the heart, a flame that thrives. It whispers, "Together, we'll find the way, Through tempests and storms, through night and day."

Tolerance flowers in the garden of grace, Where the rainbow shares one space. No voice unheard, no soul denied, Falling in unity's arms is our pride.

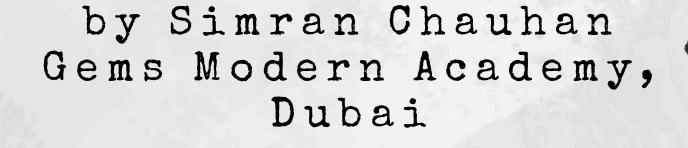
A mother's love, the purest thread, Weaving the future with care as she's led.

Through laughter, through tears, through joy and pain,
Her strength is the root, her spirit the rain.
Determined we stand, unyielding bold,
With hearts of fire, with hands to hold.
Each step that we make, each bridge that we mend,
Together we thrive, together transcend.

The greatest tapestry so woven and spun, We rise as many, but we live as one.

I am because you are -

In every breath, in every scar.







I EXIST BECAUSE YOU EXIST

BY VEDIKA JHUNJHUNWALA AL DIYAFAH HIGH SCHOOL, DUBAI

I exist because you exist

My spirit stirs with quiet strength, A will that twists and bends.

But, dear friend determination,

Who can deny—"I exist because you exist."

As a child, I was taught early That dreams would fade, success was far, That my potential would be ordinary,
No matter how hard I starved for a spark.

With words like "You lack all talent" Echoing through my mind, I built a life of pretence, Leaving my true self behind.

Each day was grey, a monotonous blur, No purpose to ignite, Until a simple truth was whispered — Determination is the light.

The world outside seemed cold and harsh, its judgments sharp and clear, But I began to look within myself, Faced my doubts and confronted the fears.

Through struggles, failures, and defeats, I learned to rise again, To see that every misstep was a lesson, a way to break the chain.

My heart grew strong, my mind grew wise, and in the quiet of my soul, I realized that I am not alone — My existence makes me whole.

For in your strength, I find my courage; In your hope, my spark. Together, we light the path ahead, Even when the road feels dark.

So now I stand, no longer bound by whispers of despair, For I am rooted in this truth: Together, we are rare.

You helped me see the power that lies within my will, And with your strength beside me, I find my purpose still.

I exist because you exist, our journeys intertwined, A shared belief, a shared resolve, a unity that binds.

In this dance of life, I now understand, as time unfolds its story—We are not just individual sparks; we are the light in each other's glory.



by Vedika Jhunjhunwala Al Diyafah High School, Dubai



THE GRACE OF LIFE

BY ADAM SAUDI
MAPLEWOOD CANADIAN
INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL, ABU DHABI

The Grace of Life

The wind is blowing, the birds are chirping,

The gentle breeze through branches swinging and turning.

Beneath the sky so calm and wide,

where the whispers of the wind guide.

So calm and peaceful, everyone abides,

Humanity has come to peace, no homicides.

Peace, like a melody soft and sweet,

A harmony where hearts gently meet.

The grace of life so sweet,

This is the time when hearts meet.

The grace of life, together we unite,

So Let us see the light.

So let us live, with love and care,
Everyone's hearts have opened to care.
For in the grace of life we see,
A world that's whole, eternally.

BY Adam Saudi Maplewood Canadian International School, Abu Dhabi





HOPE A FIRE FOREVER LIT

BY LASHA GEORGE GULF ASIAN ENGLISH SCHOOL, SHARJAH

Hope a Fire Forever Lit

An ember burns amidst the clouded night,
It is but a timid, trembling thread of light.
It emits a feeling of warmth, its glow, ever so bright,
Yet in its pulse, a dream sets flight.

Through tattered skies and mournful rain,

It whispers softly "endure the pain".

Despite the persistent sorrow and disdain,

This fragile flame shall never be afraid.

So why should you?

It bends to winds, yet does not break,

A path lit for hearts that ache.

When all seems lost, comes yearning cries,

"Even the stars must fall to rise."

A quiet force, a steadfast friend, Hope stays with you until the very end.

by Lasha George Gulf Asian English School, Sharjah





SONNET FOR OUR MOTHERS

HADIL TRABELSI ABU DHABI UNIVERSITY, ABU DHABI

Sonnet for Our Mothers

She keeps everlasting visions alive
Our mothers, loving us all so we thrive
Through school days, through anything and beyond,
For love of a familial, loving bond
Against the rosy cheek of young children,
A love much stronger than words have written.
So hug her close, perhaps minutes longer
A smile will blossom, your bond grows stronger.
Don't forget those eyes which gave you reason
To believe in life, and better seasons.
To traipse closer to more beautiful days,
Thanks to mum's love, and her nurturing ways.
Look how our mothers raise us to the sky!
Her love is what gives us hope, what gave us life





HARMONY'S DAWN

BY CLARENCE S. PAGADUAN
THE PHILIPPINE SCHOOL DUBAI

Harmony's Dawn

On the cusp of twilight, the earth hums—A quiet resonance that finds us all, Even when we forget to listen.

The oceans breathe, The forests whisper, The wind speaks in a thousand tongues, Telling stories of what has been, And what could still be. We are passengers, Riders on this fragile sphere,

Bound not by borders or names, But by the shared rhythm of existence. Each of us carries the weight Of a future unseen, A hope unspoken, An obligation undeniable.

We have seen the cracks: In the soil, in the sky, In the spaces between us. We know the damage, Feel its tremors beneath our feet. And yet, we also know this truth: A single step forward Is more powerful than the doubt behind it. This is not about blame. It is not about shame. It is about standing together,



Contd...

Harmony's Dawn

Like the roots of ancient trees Intertwined beneath the earth,
Unseen, but unshaken. The smallest gestures matter— A hand
reaching out, A voice rising up,

A promise spoken softly but firmly: We will not stand idle. Because the future is not a distant star, It is the breath you take,

The ground beneath your feet, The pulse in your veins. Close your eyes. Picture this:

A mosaic of faces, Of colors, of dreams, Each one unique, Each one essential. A world where every hand that heals Becomes a part of something greater—

Not perfect, But whole. Open your eyes. The time is now. Not to wait, Not to wonder, But to weave something stronger.

For the earth, For each other, For all the mornings still to come.



BY Clarence S. Pagaduan The Philippine School, Dubai

THE ECHOES OF TOMORROW

BY SIMRA KHAN
PRISTINE PRIVATE SCHOOL, DUBAI



The Echoes Of Tomorrow

Will it be one with tall towers aglow, where lights dance like stars in a city's warm flow? A landscape of bling, a dazzling display, or lush velvet springs where children laugh and play?

Will it have flying cars and trains gliding in the horizon, or the scatters of rain, slithering of the windows in abandon.
Will it have a fresh aroma every time a breath is taken, or one with a hint of fume, spreading enormous lengths.

Will we still be tethered to the screens in our palms, chasing bright pixels, neglecting the charm? In our quest for connection, will we have a voice in a world full of distractions, can we make a choice?

Will we still have people hungry on the street, or will they finally have something to eat, will their dreams be well and alive, or be crushed and destroyed, just like our beehives.

Will we have birds chirping and singing their song, or will we have automation, beeping all night long. Will our future thrive with laughter and love, or be a vast silence, devoid of dove.





The Echoes Of Tomorrow

Will the streets roam with robots, precise in their task, while fields of wildflowers remain etched in the past? Will there be buzzing lights and sound, or will we hear the olfactory of the ground.

So don't be deluded by the future dear reader, for it is luring you in to its clasps, kneading your hopes. For the future is ours, let's nurture its birth, A harmony woven of both tech and earth. So when you look into the canvas, don't think of the cities think of our trees, leaves and bees.

Let us imagine our future raw, with inspiration from the past, it's the only way to make our world last. As we stand on the edge, let us reach for the light, balancing our dreams, with the stars in our sight.

Let's weave together progress and care, creating a future with love everywhere. Look at the world around you, see, hope and dream for we have one earth, there is no plan B.



THE VOICE THAT WON'T LET GO

BY ZAINAB ABDUL RAZZAQ
MERRYLAND INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL, ABU DHABI



The Voice That Won't Let Go

There's a flicker that appears inside of me, A tiny one that's hard to see. It whispers, "You can try again," When every walking step feels like pain. When the challenge's hard, and I'm stuck in a hopeless place, Or when I fall behind in a big, long race. When The path is steep, and the climb is tough, Sometimes I think I've had enough.

Then The spark seems to appear and whispers, "One more try, You'll never know if you don't fly." Each fall teaches me something new like an insight to a breakthrough,

Every bruise obtained scrapes a clearer view. The flicker burns when self-esteem's the quietest and doubt's the loudest,

It's there, but it doesn't shout, it doesn't scream, And in its comfort,

I dare to dream.

When hope feels lost, like the beginning of the end is near, And every step seems engulfed in uncertainty and fear. The spark whispers, soft but strong, And its words make me feel that I belong.

When my despair was at its greatest,

When my hope was at its lowest,

It had been with me through thick and thin, It stayed with me, through every doubt and spin, I look inside, and now I see,
The spark of determination was never far but always inside of me.



by Zainab Abdul Razzaq Merryland International School, Abu Dhabi





I exist because you exist

In the stillness of the morning's glow, The world awakens soft and slow.

I bloom because your love has shown, In your arms, I have always grown.

You gave me life, you gave me light, No wonder, the world is so bright.

Your love is what makes me strong, And corrects me if I am wrong. In your embrace, I find my peace, For me though, you give up your dreams. Through every storm and darkest night,

You always guide me to the path which is right.
With every laugh and every tear, You provide all the support for me to repair.

In every challenge that we face,

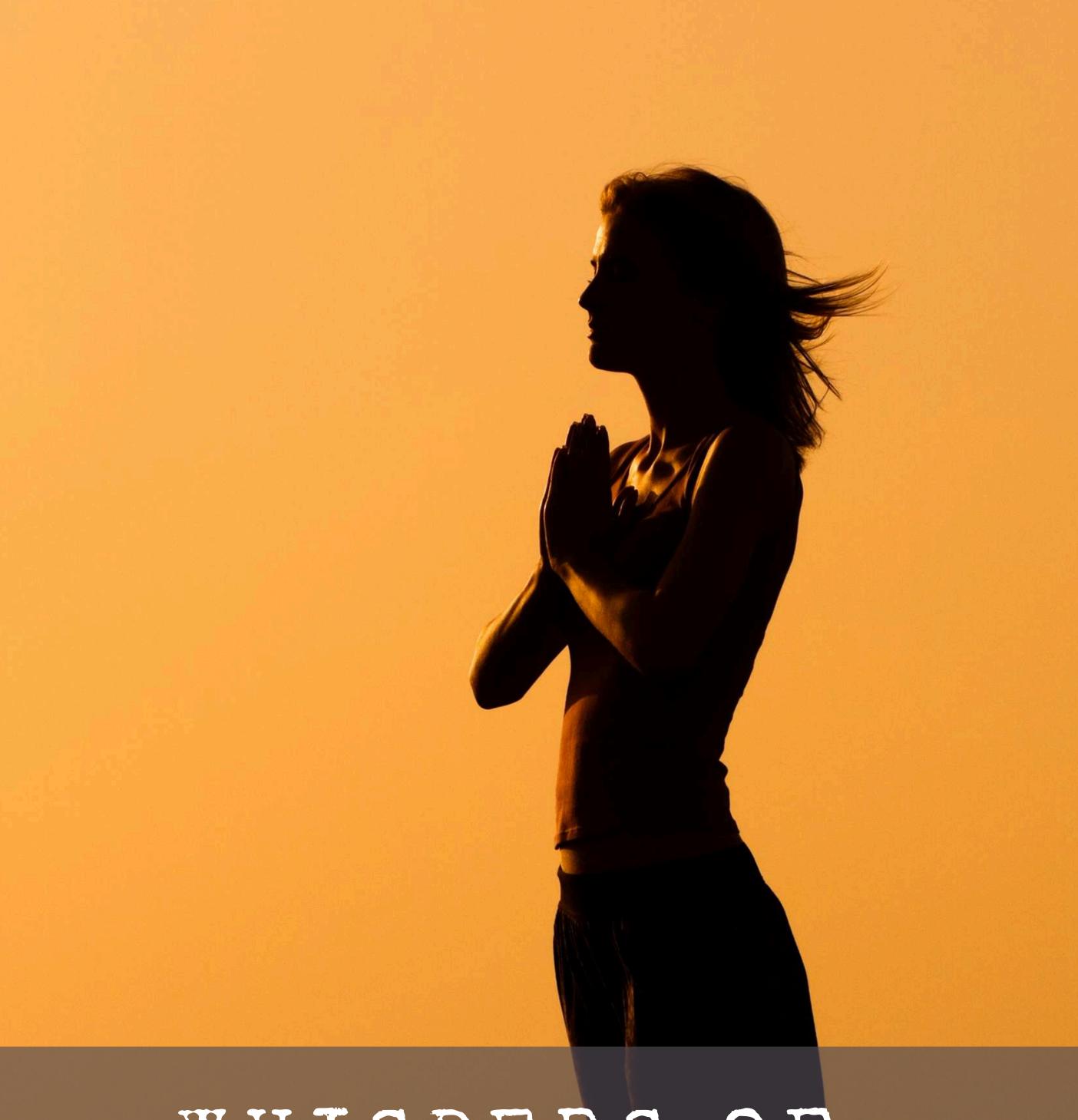
Your kindness and strength leaves a trace. Here is my promise, pure and true,

Forever I will admire you.

For me you're my anchor, my heart's delight, When you are around everything feels so right.

> by Shaunak Valimbe Gems Winchester Abu Dhabi





WHISPERS OF PEACE

BY GAURI NAIR
THE MILLENNIUM SCHOOL, DUBAI

Whispers of Peace

Quiet as dawn slipping in the cracks,

Peace tiptoes where the world lacks

Through wars of thought, and endless fight,

It wears the armor of soft moonlight.

Not loud or proud, it doesn't demand,

It builds a bridge from hand to hand, In the pulse of breath, the hush of air,

peace finds its place in those who care.

It's not the end of every storm,

But it is the destruction of war, reform A quiet pact between each soul,

A way to feel a bit of the whole.

It's in the waiting, the steady heart,

Chooses the humble choice to pause, restart,

Chooses the humble choice to pause, restart,

Peace lives in moments soft and brief,

A simple word, that should be a shared belief.



by Gauri Nair
The Millennium School,
Dubai



THREADS OF HARMONY

BY MAYADARSHINE SUDHAKAR MAYOOR PRIVATE SCHOOL ABU DHABI

Threads of Harmony

A tapestry of words and thoughts combined, Yet something in my heart stays rather confined; We, the world longing for universal harmony, Ignore and forget than perceive it constantly.

Told that people join hands, sing jointly as one, But where is this promise in this tapestry spun? Compromise for this better tomorrow in tandem: Living this one life, do it with the enthusiasm.

Hope, a dream in the mind of what is to come, Together we rejoice and have a kindred vision Determined to seek for such a harnessed future, Go flowing with the little plays by Mother Nature.

Dream of a walking man, since dawn of humanity;
With no prejudice and no poisoned reality,
Shall we create the universe we yearn, and desire?
Why not knit ourselves for this society we admire?

Leaping into this really unviable ethereal escape,
All forthcoming, turn this to heaven's landscape; Stand
your ground in this everlasting world for peace,
Come, let's weave this tapestry into a real
masterpiece.



By Mayadarshine Sudhakar Mayoor Private School Abu Dhabi



Fire

The fire within me is all I need

To charge ahead To rise and succeed

There's no need to beg and plead

There is no help I seek To see the opportunities around

me

The flame inside me is more than enough

To stand on my feet and be tough

Validation won't forge my route

When I have my own inner pursuit

And you too must understand

The fire in you will help you take a stand

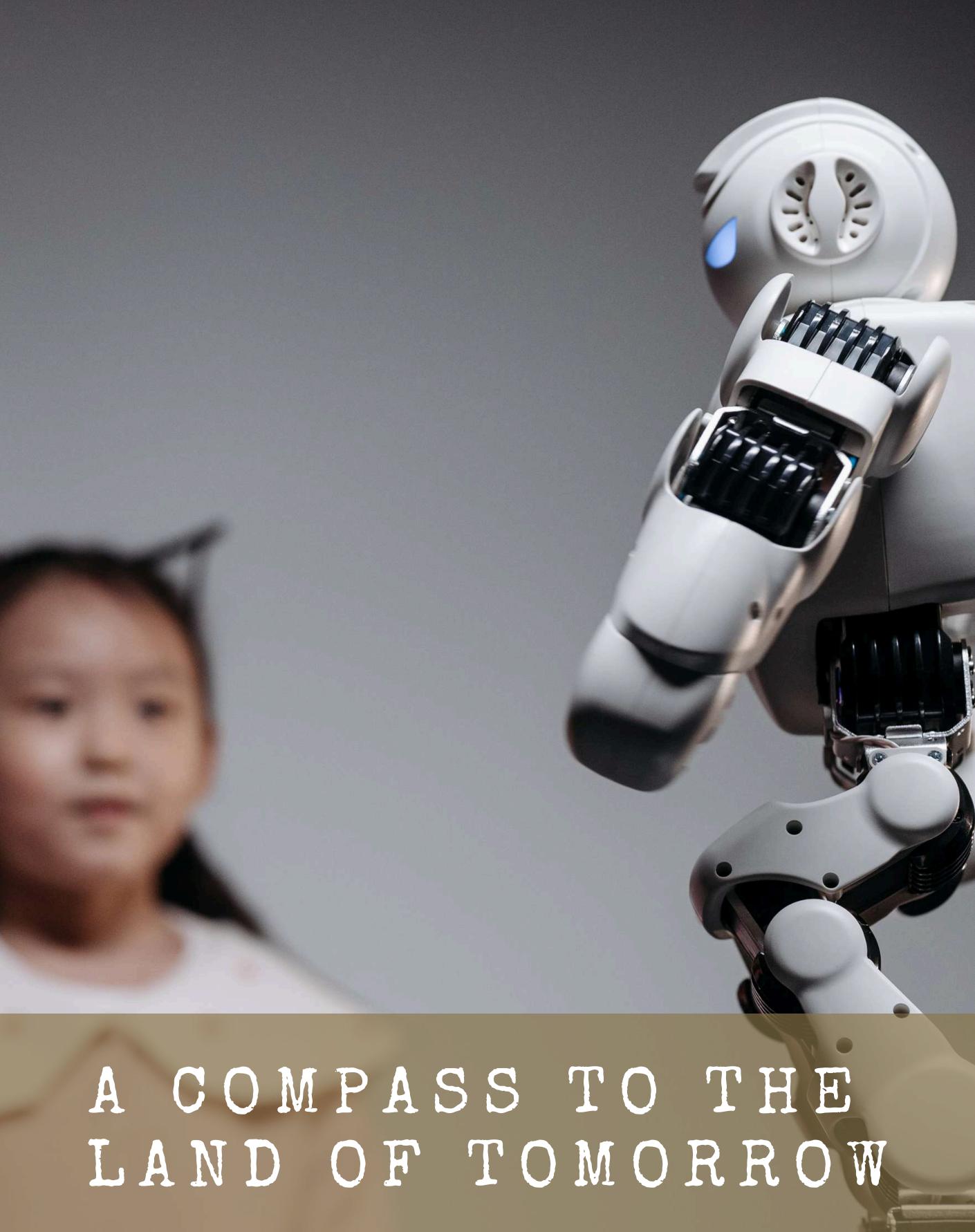
As tis' is your guide To bring light through the darkest

night

Emotions stored will lead your climb Till you hold your head high in cloud nine

> By Vedicka Jayanth Credence High School, Dubai





BY ZAHRA GAIL FRAGATA
FAR EASTERN PRIVATE SCHOOL
AL HALWAN BRANCH, SHARJAH

A Compass to the Land of Tomorrow

In the shadows of dreams where weary souls wander, Children of travelers chase glimmers of wonder. Years drift like whispers over valleys untrod, With hearts full of stories and streets formed of sod.

Once vibrant were visions of futures unclaimed, Now dust settles softly on the hopes that remain. They sought in the echoes where golden dreams dwell, Yet lost in the labyrinths of sorrow's deep well.

A map unfolds gently, a guise worn with age, In tongues long forgotten, it turns a new page. Yet here come the children—bright-eyed with the dawn— To reclaim what was lost, to redefine what's drawn.

They, who once were the promise of tomorrow, Have become the desolation of the past's hollow sorrow. Yet hope stirs anew in each syllable learned, From the ashes of grief, a fierce fire is burned.

Through thick forests whispering of struggles and strife, They carve out their futures with threads soaked in new life. With courage as compass and dreams as their guide, They'll sail through climes shifting like waves on a tide.



Contd...

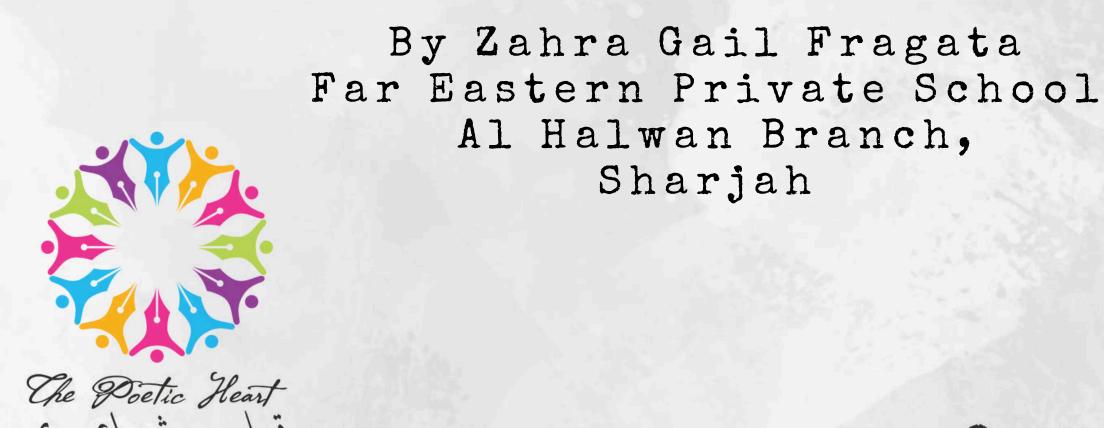
A Compass to the Land of Tomorrow

Together they stand on this canvas of gray, As children step boldly, while parents must stay. The tales of the elders begin to fade in their song—While young hearts must venture where their dreams lead them on.

Ambition beckons like an unexplored route, With every breath taken, life's truths resolute. In laughter and heartbreak, each moment transcends— The bittersweet tapestry that only time lends.

The blues paint their skies with colors yet known,
Interwoven with memories that carve out their tone.
Conflicted emotions dance under the stars— Creativity
blooms where despair left its scars.

So here's to the journey from darkness to dawn; Each footprint a promise—a brand new world drawn. In channels of time where resilience takes flight, Together they'll forge it—the world made of light.



دلقة وصل انسانية



YASMINA BRITISH ACADEMY, ABU DHABI

Our Leader (Seven Falcons)

Soar high, our flag, with pride and flourish,

Rejoice in achievements through ages that nourish.

The UAE amazed the world, left them in awe, Sending a message beyond oceans they saw.

We declared: Nothing's impossible in this land, Thanks to God and the wise, steady hand.

With Zayed's resolve and unified decisions, They formed a nation of seven falcons' visions

Rashid, whose deeds shine in tough times bright, And Al Qasimi, guarding his land with might.

Al Nuaimi, who followed the same steadfast trail, And Al Mualla, whose rise will never fail.

Al Sharqi, who drew wisdom from experience deep,

And stood with them in the foremost keep.

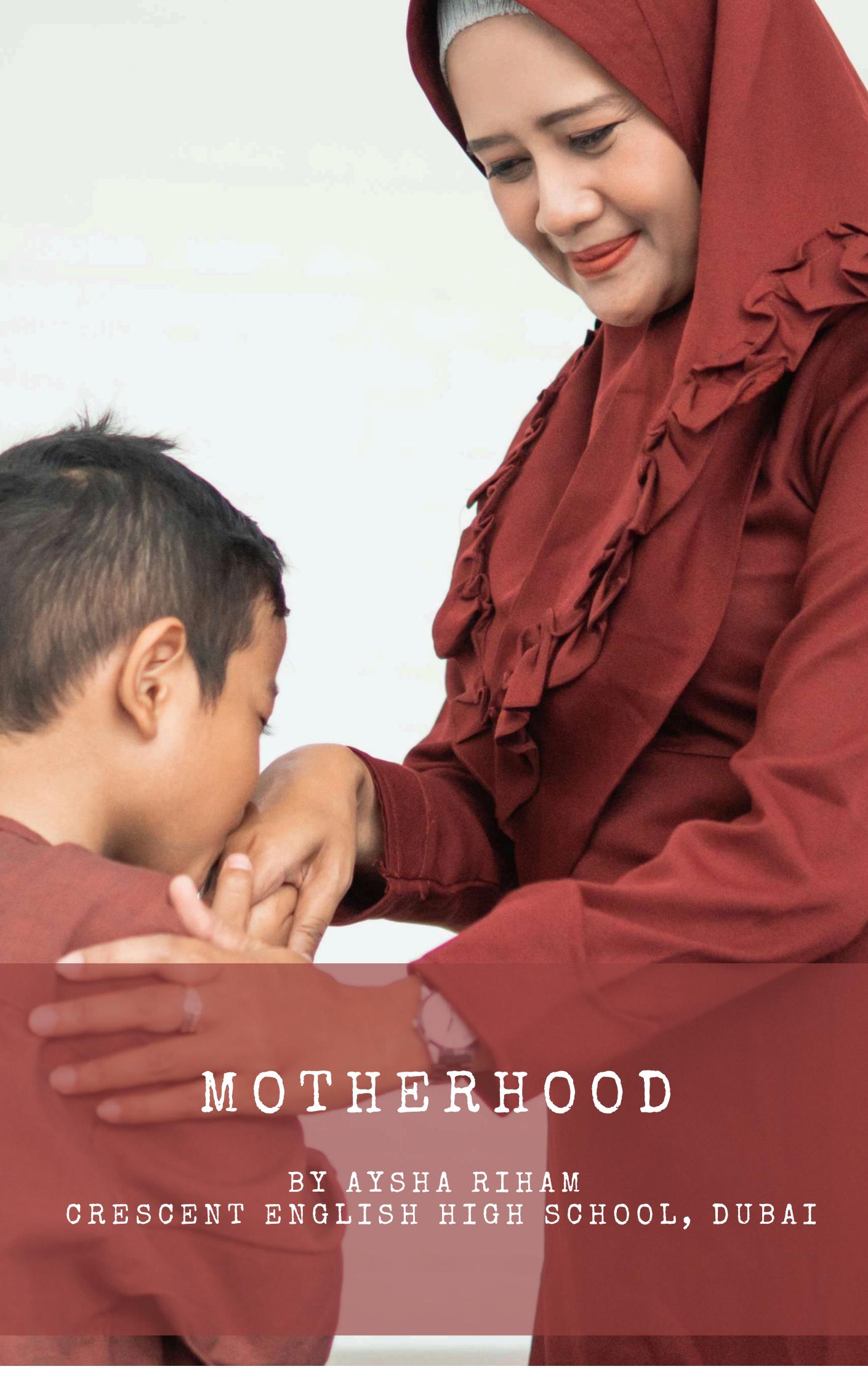
Today, their successors carry the banner high, Leading the nation with no flaw to deny.

Oh God, protect this dearest land we adore,



By Rashid Al Neyadi Yasmina British Academy, Abu Dhabi





Motherhood

In the heart of every world, there is a caring mother Watching up at night, under the light of candles Sews dreams with threads of hope And plants a smile in every stillness

She is a warm embrace in a cold world Embracing sadness and dispelling it like clouds She looks with eyes full of love So the souls feel a strange joy

She teaches us how to take the first steps
And how to hold our heads high despite the difficulties
She wipes away the tears and says: Don't be sad!
Hope is a flower that grows despite the wounds

If the world is harsh on us
It always remains our tender support
It offers its words like songs
It softens the hearts and gives them security

Oh my mother, oh the shining sun of my life
To you alone I raise the highest prayers
You are the star in my dark night
And a full moon that lights the path of life for me

Live long, oh flower of the soul
And always remain my symbol of arrival
For motherhood is a message that deserves respect
And a symbol of love that knows no seasons



Aysha Riham Crescent English High School, Dubai



CRESCENT ENGLISH HIGH SCHOOL, DUBAI

Hope

Like a flower growing in fertile soil
Lighting the paths of life like the bright sun
And giving us strength in every difficult situation
When the sky is cloudy
And the world seems miserable and sad

And the world seems miserable and sad
The breezes of hope come with kindness and
tenderness

And bring back the smile to the face of the dream
Hope is a star that shines in the night
Guiding us towards the light of the new morning
Transporting us from pain to great joy
And drawing the path for every happy person
Despair is never a solution to problems
But faith that everything will return
For on the horizon, there is a sure light
Oh hope of tomorrow, oh joy of souls
We will not abandon you no matter what happens
We will plant you in our hearts like flowers
And always water our dreams with the water of
optimism

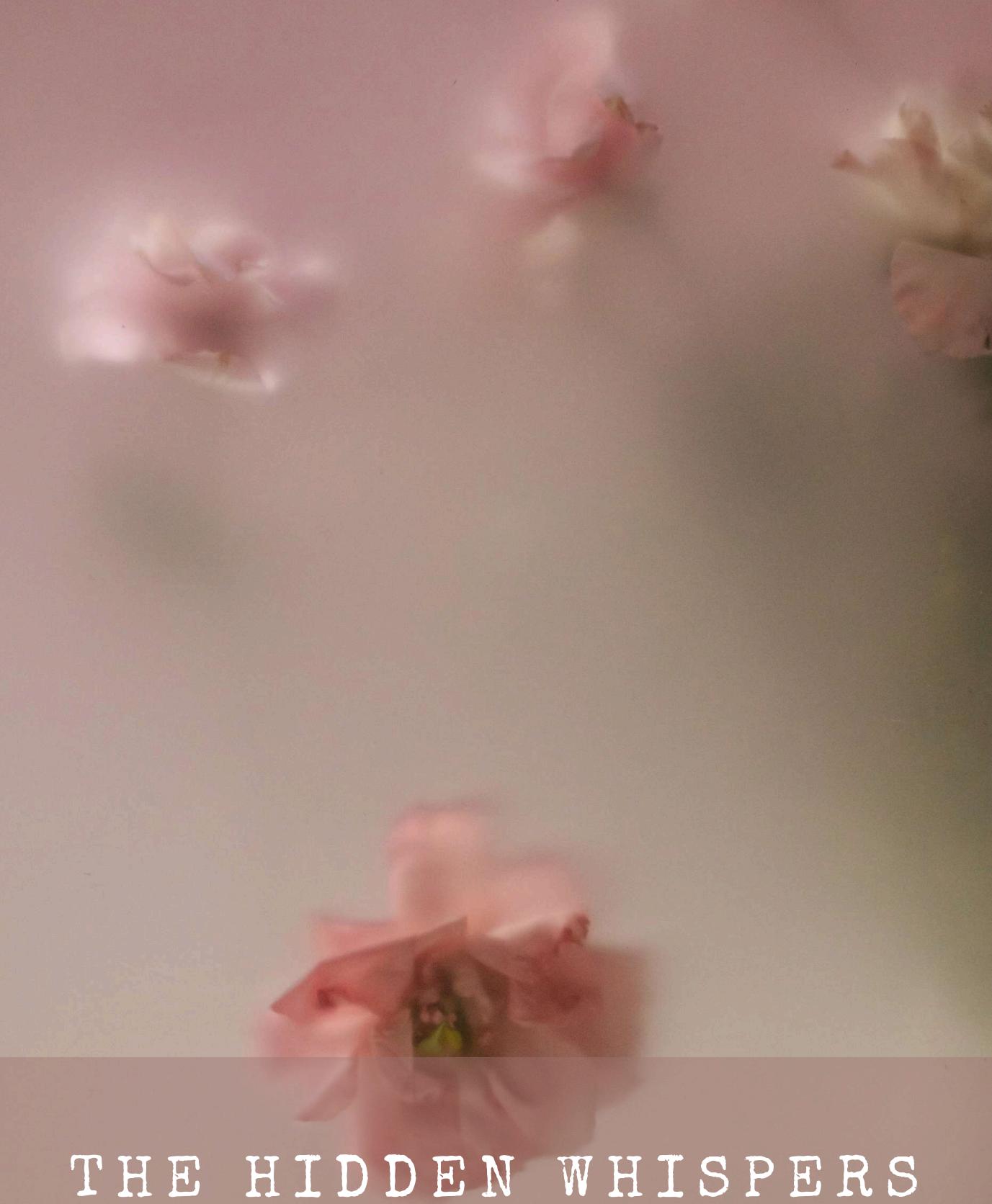
For hope is the light that never fades

It is a password for all hearts

Let us live with love We strive forward, for life is beautiful with its colors and stars



by Muhammad Ibrahim Crescent English High School, Dubai



THE HIDDEN WHISPERS IN THE MISTS

BY NIHARIKA RANJITH
GEMS OUR OWN ENGLISH
HIGH SCHOOL, DUBAI

The Hidden Whispers in the Mists

Hope a blanket that keeps you warm even when you are going through the toughest of storms.

She sings a lullaby so delicate so mellow and becomes an anchor when thoughts swirl in your mind like tornados.

Hope feels like a hand that puts the fallen stars back in your sky. A gentle whisper reminding you that you will be alright.

She fixes the broken parts, that you never thought would heal and gives you a new meaning to life a new reason to believe.

She is the light that you'll see in a dark tunnel. A shine that will never fade a spark always ready to ignite.

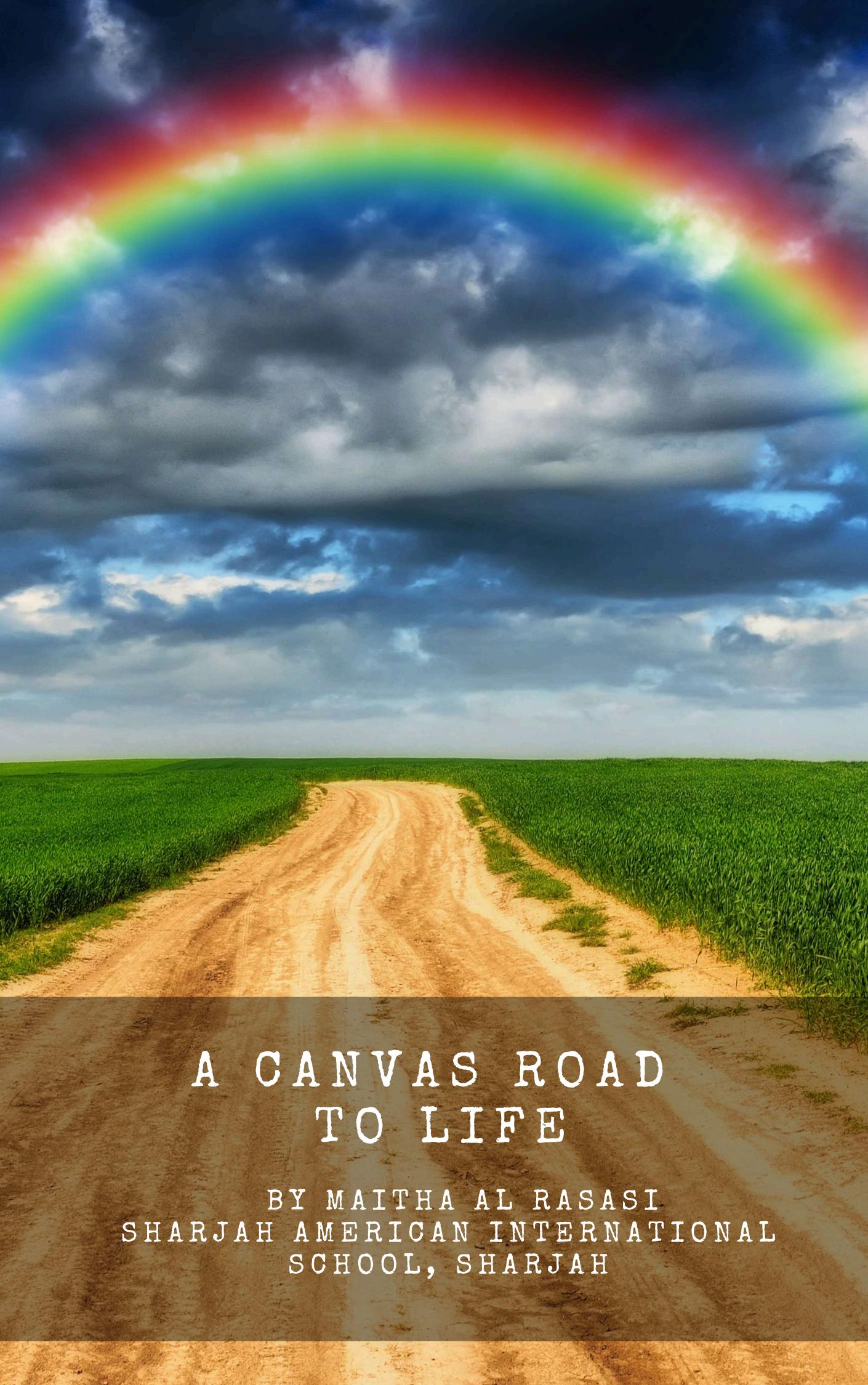
Hope the feeling that keeps everyone's spirits alive. She is the reviver that brings the lost emotions back to life.

Hope the seed planted in our soul's garden, where flowers bloom with petals that have never fallen.

Hope the effortless truth that cascades in the mists. A message I would like to tell you, my dear hope "I exist because you exist."



by Niharika Ranjith GEMS Our Own English High School, Dubai



A Canvas Road to Life

Before me lies an open road
Before me a path unworn story untold,
With every step you lead the way
With every thought you dream you love you fight.

A canvas awaits ready and wide,
Where colors collide and come alive,
Where fear emerges shadowed by doubt.
A canvas screams shouting for help.

The road calls me urging me near,

"Just do it, let go of your fear"

The canvas starts to shine, alive and bright

Leading my rightful to my path.

by Maitha Al Rasasi Sharjah American International School, Sharjah





PEACE & HARMONY

BY MAIMUNAH MASWA AKRAMI THE CENTRAL SCHOOL, DUBAI

Peace and Harmony

The seeds of peace and harmony grow into a tree of love Whose root is firm and whose branch is high, bearing fruit over every obstacle.

Through peace and harmony, bridges are built And the doors of faith and light are opened.

A world of peace and harmony is a perfect world In which every soul finds a sense of connection

Hand in hand, everyone as one group With peace, happiness spreads among people

We will continue to illuminate the earth with peace And we will not despair of speech, and the lack of speech

Peace and harmony are treasures that we all deserve They make from unity a colorful rainbow

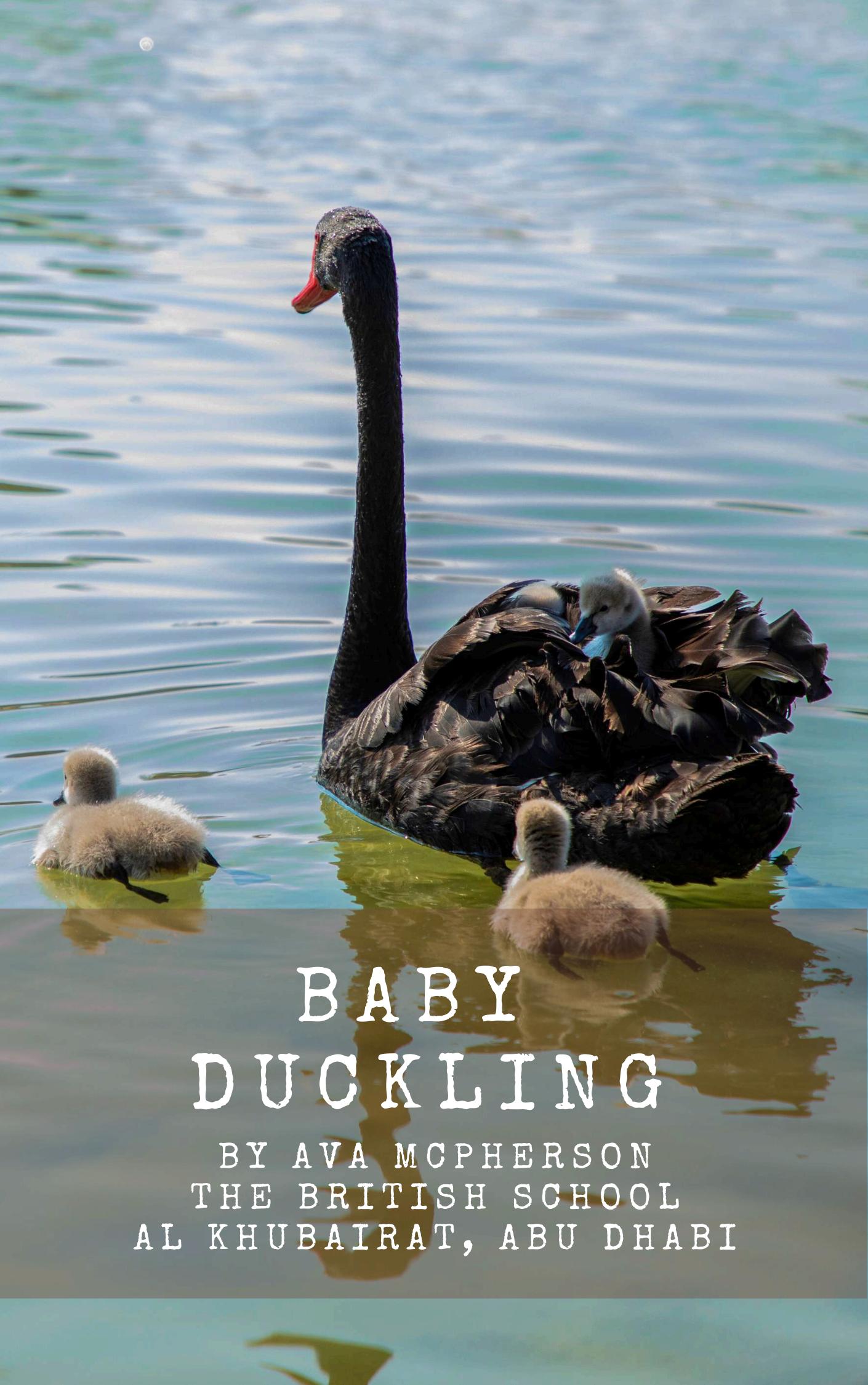
Peace establishes trust, and harmony nurtures its brilliance Together they help humanity build its path

In the warmth of compassion, peace finds its home And harmony guides us, so no one feels isolated in his heart.

by Maimunah Maswa Akrami The Central School, Dubai







BABY DUCKLING

A voice that scolds

and comforts.

A heart that bleeds and swiftly recovers.

We fight and quarrel about things quickly forgotten

I have scorned her while I love her because I am hers as much as she is mine.

From my coiling dark curls

to all my tenacity

Every day people see more of her in myself.

A mortal meant to carry the world because surely that's not too big of an ask.

A human growing, growing just as I grow.

A mother expected to be perfect and a woman who should be allowed to make mistakes.

Maybe the comparison's not too embarrassing to take.

The woman who raised me?

To share any of that strength and beauty?

I think I like the sound of that.

by Ava McPherson The British School, Al Khubairat, Abu Dhabi





YOU OF TOMORROW

BY ALIZAY SHAHARYAR
IBN SEENA ENGLISH HIGH
SCHOOL, SHARJAH

YOU OF TOMORROW

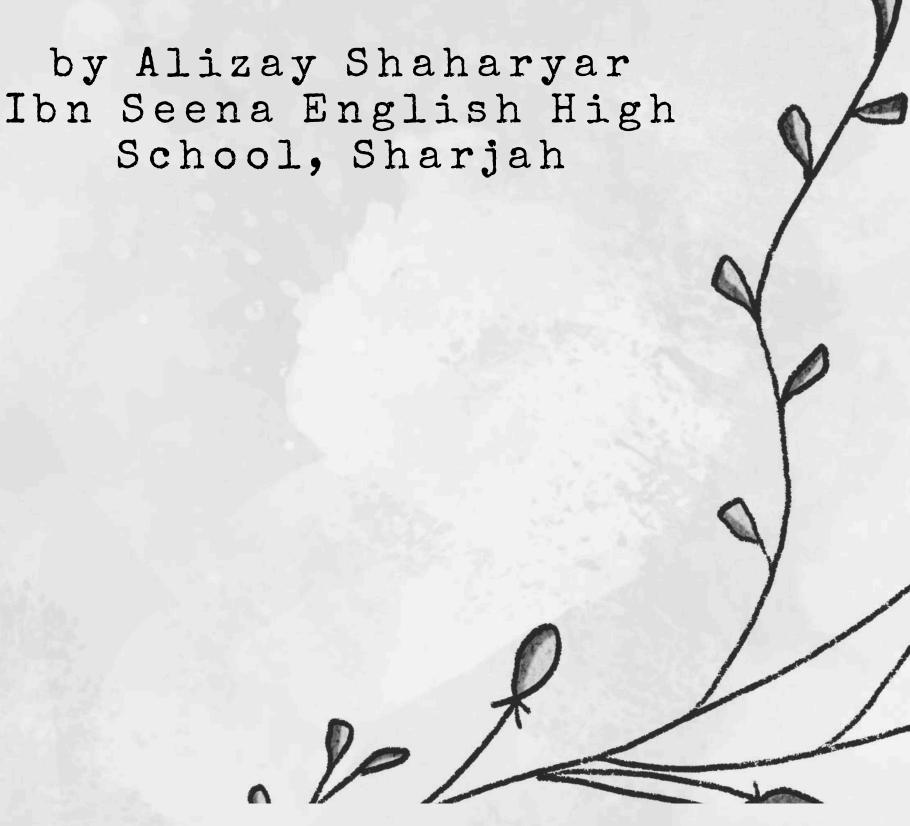
When your tears will fall,
Do not let them drown you,
With every blow that tries to break you
And every single defeat
Rise: stonger,braver,more complete.

Reading a book twice will not change its ending, So create your own book. Do not walk on the path that someone else has created, Rather pave your path.

Never be too dependent, Instead be the one who you depend on. dreams do not turn real through the occult, They ask for your determination and hard work.

Despair all the darkness you will be surrounded with,
The hope within you will bring you light.
Never live in deep sorrow
Be the You of Tomorrow







LUMINARIES OF VERSE

A SELECTED COLLECTION OF POEMS THE POETIC HEART 2025

Now in its 14th edition, Poetic Heart: Connecting Humanity 2025 continues its legacy of uniting voices across generations, cultures and abilities. Since its inception in 2012, this dynamic platform has brought together renowned poets, musicians, student poets and People of Determination, celebrating the power of words and music to foster unity.

With over 200 student poets, 90 senior poets and 27 musicians performing in 16 languages, Poetic Heart is a living testament to resilience, harmony, tolerance and coexistence.

Luminaries of Verse is a hand-picked collection which offers a glimpse of poetry performed in the 14th edition of Poetic Heart; an invitation to experience the symphony of poetry, music and artistic expression that defines this event.