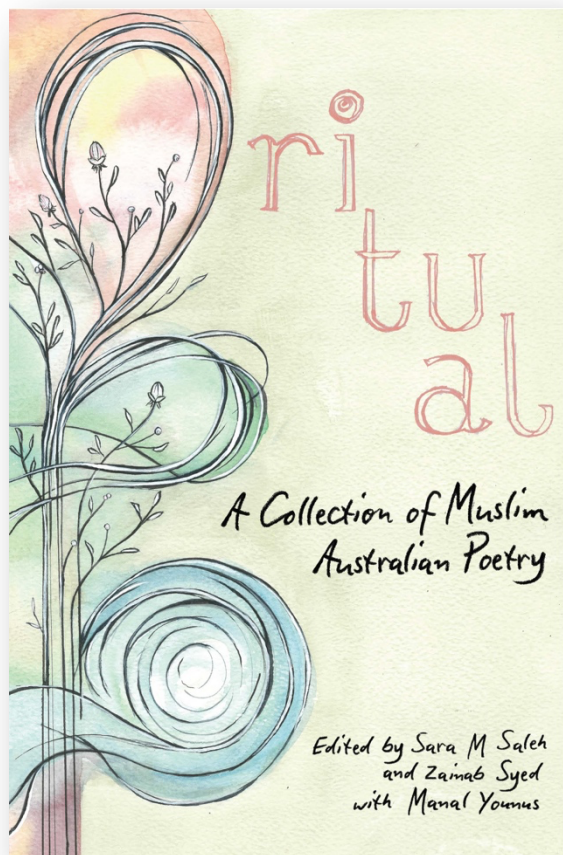


RITUAL: A Collection of Muslim Australian Poetry

Edited by Sara M Saleh and Zainab Syed with Manal Younus



Sweatshop Literacy Movement is delighted to announce the exciting release of RITUAL: a ground-breaking new publication, which centres and celebrates the diversity of contemporary Muslim Australian identities and experiences through the timeless power of literature.

As Australia's first anthology to showcase the work of Muslim-identifying poets, the collection offers an urgent and necessary contribution to the global tradition of Islamic-inspired poetry.

The transformative collection was edited by award-winning Palestinian-Australian author and poet, **Sara M Saleh**, and award-winning Pakistani-Australian poet, **Zainab Syed**.

In a joint statement, Sara and Zainab said the book is essential reading during this heightened period of Islamophobic and anti-Muslim hysteria: "We are so proud to have published the first-ever anthology of Muslim poetry in Australia as a testament to the enduring power of art, especially in these times of great grief and loss."

The dynamic collection also contains a series of commissioned works by acclaimed Eritrean-Australian

storyteller, **Manal Younus**, and a foreword by First Nations Muslim writer and researcher, **Dr Eugenia Flynn**.

RITUAL features 39 Muslim Australian poets from over 25 culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds. Notable contributors include:

Omar Musa: Omar is a Bornean-Australian writer and visual artist from Queanbeyan, Canberra. His debut novel, *Here Come the Dogs* (Penguin, 2014) was longlisted for the 2015 Miles Franklin Award and won the 2015 *SMH* Best Young Novelists Award. Omar is also the author of several poetry collections, including *Parang* (Penguin, 2014), *Millefiori* (Penguin, 2017) and *Killernova* (Penguin, 2021).

Lamisse Hamouda: Lamisse is an Egyptian-Australian writer from Meanjin (Brisbane). Her debut memoir, *The Shape of Dust* (Pantera, 2023) won the 2024 National Biography Award. She is a creative writing workshop facilitator, youth worker and Adjunct Lecturer at UNSW.

Rashida Murphy: Rashida lives on the unceded lands of the Whadjuk Noongar people in Boorloo/Perth. She is the author of *The Historian's Daughter* (UWAP, 2016) and *The Bonesetter's Fee & Other Stories* (Spineless Wonders, 2021). Her poetry and prose have been featured in both national and international publications.

RITUAL: A Collection of Muslim Australian Poetry is distributed through NewSouth Books and available now from all good bookstores. Please visit the Sweatshop website for further information: www.sweatshop.ws

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