

DEATH *and* LIFE

Bianca Bowers

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TITLE: DEATH AND LIFE

AUTHOR: BIANCA BOWERS

GENRE: POETRY

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DIMENSIONS: 6 X 9 INCHES

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“Death is the great disruptor. It thrusts us opposite life’s mirror, invites our truthful exploration, and reveals the naked truth from which rebirth is possible and we are free to reinvent ourselves anew.”

Death and Life is the first poetry book by Bianca Bowers, and includes poems and essays written between 1987 and 2013. Dedicated to those who struggle in their youth, and autobiographical in nature, she invites you to journey through various psychological, emotional, and spiritual experiences to discover why death is not isolated to physical loss, but extends to figurative deaths that arise from larger themes such as patriarchy, abuse, depression, love, exile, belonging, and identity.

*“Change
blows through the branches of our existence
and fortifies the roots on which we stand.”*

REVIEWS

“What a truly amazing work of poetry that speaks of an incredible experience in all the trials and tribulations that life (and loss) have to offer us mere mortals. Death and Life takes the reader on a journey of true experience by someone that has obviously travelled the tracks from darkness through to the light, and beyond. Amazing work by an incredibly talented poet.” ~ Amazon

“One only rarely finds such penetrating and perfected poetry. It's like reading a refined journal that you wrote long ago — one that touches you to the core and captures everything you ever thought you knew of the mystery of life and death and life.” ~ Amazon

Poems

JAR OF SECRETS

I carried my jar of secrets
step by childhood step
through prickly clumps of wild grass
and filmy spider nets.

I dug my nails into my hand
step by blistered step
as I crossed the solar powered tar
and dunes of scorching sand.

I placed my jar of glass and tin
at her capricious feet
I offered her my broken body
and whispered my defeat.

I floated in her cool embrace
watched the ebony drift away
in her weightless world of love
I saw another way.

She ebbed and flowed toward my jar
of glass and secret sin
and released it back into the blue
from whence it did begin

AMPLIFIED SILENCE

Violence interrupted, disrupted
vandalised the skeleton of skin

Innocence abducted
without anaesthetic

Reborn in the perpetrators shadow
a synthetic mutation that victimised itself

Decanted bottomless despair
swallowed promises of ecstasy

Chased the light of a soul down dark alleys
before it vanished in the blinking strobe

Hijacked by depression
Suicide in the passenger seat

Drove to the valley of graves
to dig 6 feet of repression

MEET BIANCA



Bianca Bowers is a South African-born, Australian-based writer who has also lived in the UK and New Zealand. She holds a BA in English and Film/TV/Media Studies from the University of Auckland, and has authored five poetry books through her poetry imprint, Paperfields Press.

Her fifth poetry book, *Butterfly Voyage*, reached Number 1 in Amazon's Australian and Oceanian Poetry Category on its release, and Bianca's poems have appeared in film, print anthologies, and online journals.

Bianca's debut novel, *Cape of Storms*, was published in 2019 through her fiction imprint, Auteur Books. She is currently working on her second novel and her sixth poetry collection.

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