

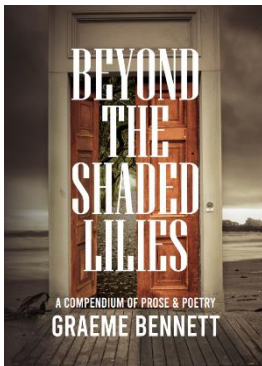
Book Press Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

New book, *Beyond the Shaded Lilies*, treads the spaces between darkness and light

This book of prose and poetry is a meditation on life, love and death



Surrey, BC, August 25, 2024—In *Beyond the Shaded Lilies*, you'll find everything from love poems and whimsical fantasy feasts to dour ruminations on war and mortality, the latter inspired by the unexpected death of the author's eldest child in June, 2024.

On the brighter side are several "nearly true stories" that tell of *Alice in Wonderland*-inspired parties and Monty Pythonesque medieval feasts and adventures. Balancing out these giddy entries are a few poems that explore much darker territory, with apocalyptic imagery of wars, plagues, cracks in the sky and other nightmare fuel.

Several of the 50-plus pieces are sharply satirical, taking aim at the current political and socio-economic climate (*Wagging the Dog*, *Political Asylum*, *It's a Very Strange World*), the Hollywood studio system (*You Don't See That in Hollywood*) and romantic escapades (*California*, *Double Feature Romance*, *Beautiful People*). There's also a quartet of riddles that, when answered, reveal a solution to a character's dilemma in *Magikos*, the longest piece in this book.

According to the author, the collection is roughly in chronological order. One may infer, then, that the doom-laden early entries somehow led to the more hopeful and wistful love poems that appear about halfway through the book. But shadows soon appear here, too, with implications of slamming doors, broken hearts and broken promises. In all, it's an interesting and thought-provoking collection, just as a compendium of poetry and prose should be.

Key themes

Key themes include myths, mortality and magic. Suitable for ages 12 and up. This collection includes 50 poems of varying lengths, colour illustrations and a short story. No explicit sexual content or swearing.

Availability

Beyond the Shaded Lilies (88 pages, paperback ISBN 978-1-998388-08-0; ebook ASIN B0CTHQJY7Z) is available in colour paperback and ebook editions worldwide. C\$12.99/C\$4.99.

About the author

Graeme Bennett is a prolific and imaginative author and illustrator based in Surrey, BC. For more information about this and other available titles, please visit www.graemebennett.com