

# Call for Submissions

Zeba Books Poetry Anthology, Summer 2026

## The Architecture of Absence

Zeba Books invites submissions for its upcoming Poetry Anthology of Summer 2026. We are seeking evocative, high-calibre work from aspiring poets that interrogates the liminal spaces of human belonging and exile.

### 1. Thematic Scope

We are looking for work that focuses on three core pillars of existential longing:

- *Saudade: From Portuguese; the presence of absence; a deep emotional state of melancholic longing for an absent something or someone that one cares for.*
- *Ibasho ga nai: From Japanese; having no place to belong; the psychological state of having no place where one feels at ease, at home, or truly belongs.*
- *Ghuraba: From Arabic; the strangers; the concept of the "Stranger", that is, those who are alienated from the mundane world while being tethered to a deeper, often spiritual, reality.*

### 2. Eligibility and Intent

This call is specifically for the "Emerging Voice" of aspiring poets.

We define an aspiring poet as one who has not yet published a full-length solo collection with a traditional publisher. We prioritize sincerity, technical precision, and intellectual depth over "veteran" status.

### 3. Submission Period

Submissions open: 06<sup>th</sup> March, 2026

Submissions close: 23<sup>rd</sup> March, 2026

### 4. How to Submit?

[Submissions are accepted via our Google form](#); please note that all poems as well as the poet's bio should be uploaded as one single document.

For queries, please write to [letters@zebabooks.org](mailto:letters@zebabooks.org)

# Contributor Guidelines

## Zeba Books Anthology of Poetry, Summer 2026

Please follow these instructions carefully. Submissions that do not adhere to formatting may be discarded.

### 1. Submission Format

- File Format: .docx or .odt only (No PDFs or cloud links).
- Typography: Any standard font such as Times New Roman, 12pt, 1.5 line spacing.
- File Naming: [LastName\_FirstName\_ZBAnthology2026.docx]

### 2. Quantity and Length

- Submission Cap: Maximum of three (3) poems.
- Per Poem: Maximum 120 lines per poem.
- Total: Total line count across all submissions must not exceed 360 lines.
- Layout: Each poem must start on a new page.

### 3. Originality

Zeba Books maintains a strict "Human-Only" content policy. Any work found to be generated, assisted, or "refined" by Large Language Models (LLMs) will be summarily rejected, and the contributor will be barred from future calls. The decision of the Zeba Books Review Committee in this aspect will be final.

## 4. Poet Bio

Include a 50-word third-person biography at the end of your document. Mention your location and what "home" means to you.

## 5. How to Submit

- [Submissions are accepted via Google form.](#)
- At this moment, we do not accept simultaneous submissions. Furthermore, works that are previously published elsewhere cannot be considered for publication.

## 5. Editorial Rights

Zeba Books reserves the right to suggest minor edits for clarity, grammar, or formatting. Substantive changes will always be cleared with the poet before final publication.

## 6. Additional Info

- Email: [letters@zebabooks.org](mailto:letters@zebabooks.org)
- WhatsApp: +7 776 747 7005