

COBIS Poetry Competition 2020

Today's Actions Shape Tomorrow's World

Category C: 15-19 years Runner-up

Mother!

I buried the seeds
softly,
kindly,
lovingly,
Deep underneath the choking the stifling
soil.

I waited there,
Cross-legged in the upturned grass and
basking in the naive innocence of youth,
Dirt beneath my fingernails,
Ants pilgrims marching across
my chest,
Caterpillars spinning cocoons from
soft strands of my hair,
Butterflies fluttering across
my eyelashes.

The sun melted into
tattered
salmon-pink clouds,
dis/
jointed.

Breathe in

Breathe out

Until morning.

It's tomorrow today, so
I'll let the sun's harsh glare cleanse
the dust that settled in the grooves of my face.
Summers blazing breath burns liver spots onto my hands.
Winters frost cuts wrinkles into my skin.
Birdsong wakes me, and
anticipation lulls me to sleep.
I wait;
days and weeks and months and years and decades,
I wait.

My eyes the milky, virgin white of
The soft bark of my apple tree.

cobis.org.uk

CEO | Colin Bell

COBIS, 55-56 Russell Square, Bloomsbury, London, WC1B 4HP,
UK T: +44 (0)20 3826 7190 | E: ceo@cobis.org.uk

COBIS is an affiliate member of the Independent Schools Council (UK)
COBIS Ltd. is a company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales. Company No: 7348782 Registered VAT No: 133706039

My bones,
crushed to dust 'neath
Time's endless barrage,
Carried on ladybug wings and
Labrador's teeth.
Weary I smile
at my apple tree,
Twisted and hunchbacked,
And the children dancing
Beneath.

Karolína Kubičková
Park Lane International School

cobis.org.uk

CEO | Colin Bell

COBIS, 55-56 Russell Square, Bloomsbury, London, WC1B 4HP,
UK T: +44 (0)20 3826 7190 | E: ceo@cobis.org.uk

COBIS is an affiliate member of the Independent Schools Council (UK)
COBIS Ltd. is a company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales. Company No: 7348782 Registered VAT No: 133706039