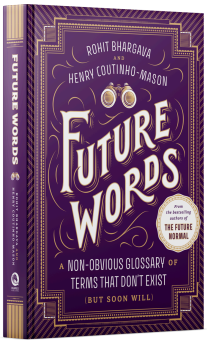
FUTURE WORDS / POETRY PRIZE

The Future Words Poetry Prize

Someone has to write the future. We think it should be poets.



Future Words invented 100 new words for a world that hasn't caught up with itself yet. But a word only truly comes alive when someone uses it to say something that matters. That's where you come in. Choose one or more of our future words and write an original poem that uses them.

We believe creativity is human work and deserves to be treated that way. Too many contests quietly take more than they give. Ours won't. Below are the rules, plus a promise from us: no fine-print tricks, no borrowed ideas, and no surprises about how your work gets used.

OUR PROMISE TO POETS

- **Your poem is yours.** You keep full copyright, before and after the contest. Entering never transfers ownership to us.
- **We won't steal your ideas.** We will never take your lines, images, concepts or interpretations of a word and use them in our own books, marketing or products without your written permission.
- **We won't use your work to train AI.** Your poem will not be fed into any AI model or dataset.
- **You decide how public you want to be.** Every entrant chooses their own spotlight level (see below), and we will honor that choice.
- **If we publish it, we pay for it.** Your poem will never appear in a compilation without your agreement and fair compensation.
- **We will celebrate you.** Every entry is a creative act worth honoring, not just the winning one.

HOW IT WORKS

1. **Get the book.** Buy one hardcover copy of *Future Words* (retail $24). You can buy it from any bookstore or online retailer, where you may find it for less, or directly from us for $20 at www.futurewordsbook.com. The 100 words you can choose from are all inside the book.
2. **Choose your word(s).** Use one future word, or as many as you like.
3. **Write your poem.** Use your chosen word or words directly in an original poem of up to 100 lines.
4. **Choose your spotlight level.** Choose how you want to be featured if you are not the winner.
5. **Submit by December 15, 2026.** Enter through the form at www.futurewordsbook.com/poetry, and upload your proof of purchase for the hardcover.
6. **The winner is chosen.** Our judging panel selects one winning poet. The winner receives $2,500, and we will be in touch personally to arrange the payment and plan how to showcase their work together.

CHOOSE YOUR SPOTLIGHT LEVEL

OPTION 1
FULL PRIVACY
We will not share your name or your poem in any publicity. Your entry is read by the judging panel and no one else.

OPTION 2
NAME ONLY
We may name you, tag you on social media, and celebrate you as an artist and entrant in roundups. We will NOT publish any part of your poem.

OPTION 3
POEM WITH COMPENSATION
You set the price you would accept for us to include your poem in a compilation we may create later. If we would like to include it, we will contact you first and pay your price. If we don't take it up, we will treat your entry as Name Only.

OPTION 4
FULL PUBLICITY
We may share your name and your poem in any of our publicity efforts. If we feature your poem in a compilation, you receive the standard rate we pay to every featured poet. That rate will be set fairly based on how many poets we include.

THE RULES

- Open to poets anywhere in the world, age 18 and older.
- One entry per person.
- Entry requires proof of purchase of one hardcover copy of *Future Words*, uploaded with your submission.
- Your poem must be your own original, unpublished work. It must be written by you, not generated by AI.
- At least one future word from the book must appear in the poem. Using more than one is welcome.
- Maximum length: 100 lines.
- The judging panel's decisions are final. Only the winner will be contacted directly.
- All submissions are final. Your poem and spotlight level cannot be changed once your entry is sent.
- We may disqualify entries that are plagiarized, hateful, or infringe on someone else's rights.

Alternative entry method for restricted locations only. If you live in Arizona, Colorado, Maryland, Nebraska or North Dakota, or in a country where the law doesn't allow a purchase requirement, you may enter without buying the book. Email megan@ideapresspublishing.com with the subject "Alternative Entry Request" and your state or country to receive the word list. These entries are judged the same as all others. Void where prohibited.

Enter at www.futurewordsbook.com/poetry

Questions? megan@ideapresspublishing.com