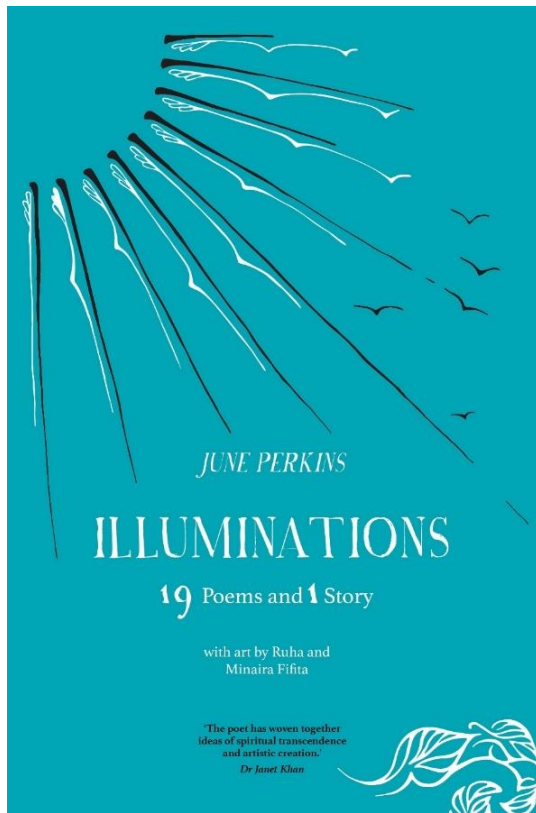


# ***Illuminations: 19 Poems and 1 Story***



**Author:** June Perkins

**Illustrators:** Ruha and Minaira Fifita

**Target Age:** 13 to 100 years plus

**Genre:** Poetry

**ISBN:** 9780980731194 (paperback)

**ISBN:** 9780648720508 (hard cover, dustcover) 15.24 cm X 22.86 cm

**Publication Date:** 20/6/2020

80 pages

**Recommended Retail Price:**

Paperback \$23.95 AUD

Hardcover \$33.95 AUD

Available through several online bookshops

[Big B Books Gold Coast](#)

Brisbane Baha'i Bookshop, Milton

And [direct from Author](#) if in Australia

This collection captures the wonder of the act of creation, the burst of excitement associated with the birth of the new, and the challenges and sacrifice involved in bringing inspiration to fruition.

Reflecting on the impact of the challenge of the new, in both the material and spiritual worlds, several of the poems refer to the advent of the Báb, the 19th century Prophetic figure, whose contemporary message inspired and challenged a sacrificial response on the part of those who embraced His Cause.

**Wholesalers can contact [INGRAM CONTENT](#)**

# Reviewers Say

## **James Tichenor, Editor, Tokens Magazine**

Like grass bursting through broken sidewalk, June's vigorous words strain to reach skyward—shoving, shouldering, insisting their way up. Gleaming with image, scent, and sound, new ideas and high purposes break through our thoughts, investing our hearts directly with the ideas she intends. And there they linger hauntingly, lifting our spirits toward heaven.

## **Michael Day, Bahá'í Author**

'Artist's Riddle' strongly resonates with me so I have stuck a copy on my office wall. Like 'Word Fragrance' and 'Dear Artist', it points to the mysterious wafting of inspiration from the spiritual realms. Illuminations is a blessed gift from the poet. Produced at a precious time, the Bicentenary of the Birth of the Báb.

## **Melanie Hill, Poet**

I was curious about the language of adoration, worship, and rapture you use in the more spiritual poems. The commonality amongst believers, regardless of faith, binds us. We recognise the same experience of faith in each other, and I think that is cause for celebration.

## **Matilda Elliot, Editor**

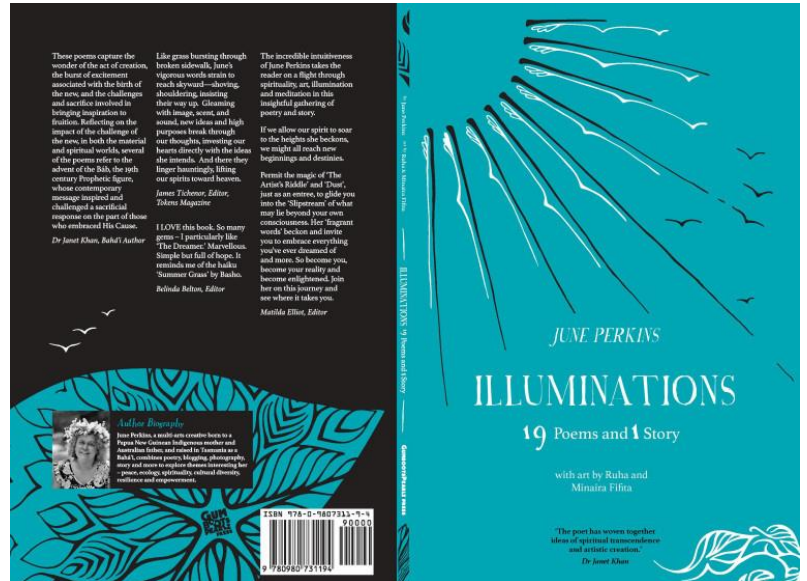
The incredible intuitiveness of June Perkins takes the reader on a flight through spirituality, art, illumination and meditation in this insightful gathering of poetry and story. If we allow our spirit to soar to the heights she beckons, we might all reach new beginnings and destinies. Permit the magic of 'The Artist's Riddle' and 'Dust', just as an entree, to glide you into the 'Slipstream' of what may lie beyond your own consciousness. Her 'fragrant words' beckon and invite you to embrace everything you've ever dreamed of and more. So become you, become your reality and become enlightened. Join her on this journey and see where it takes you.

## **Belinda Belton, Editor**

I LOVE this book. So many gems – I particularly like 'The Dreamer.' Marvelous. Simple but full of hope. It reminds me of the haiku 'Summer Grass' by Basho.

## **Ayesha Uddin, Librettist, Engineer, and Writer**

Very deeply felt and flowing verse, reminding me of thought patterns in the Eastern spiritual tradition. 'The Poetry Bird', 'Swirling, Almost Something', 'Prince of Peace' and 'The Dreamer' each struck a chord in me, seeming particularly gentle and transcendent.



# Creative Team

## About Author June Perkins

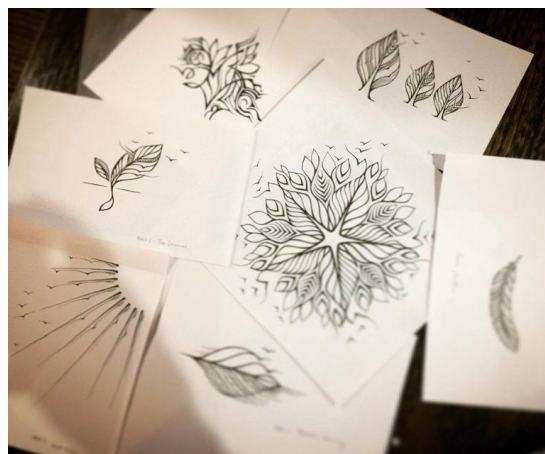
*Dr June Perkins is a multi-arts creative born to a Papua New Guinean Indigenous mother and Australian father. She was raised in Tasmania as a Bahá'í and combines poetry, blogging, photography, story and more to explore themes interesting her - peace, ecology, spirituality, cultural diversity, resilience and empowerment. Earlier poetry book is, *Magic Fish Dreaming* (2016). June has had poems published in *Nineteen Months*, *Tokens*, *Voices in the North*, *Under One Sky*, *Etchings*, *Cracks in the Canopy*, *World Order*, *Spooktacular Stories*, *Creative Kids Tales*, *Story Collection 2*, *Writing the Pacific*, *ABC Open*, *The Queensland Art Galley*, *Ridvan is Everywhere*, and *Talking Ink from Ochre*.*



## About Illustrators Fífita Sisters / IVI Designs

**Ruha Fífita** was born in Vava'u, Tonga and spent most of her life immersed in the culture and vibrancy of life in the Pacific. Her love for visual and performative forms of expression have been nurtured through the support and encouragement of her extended family and study of the writings of the Bahá'í Faith.

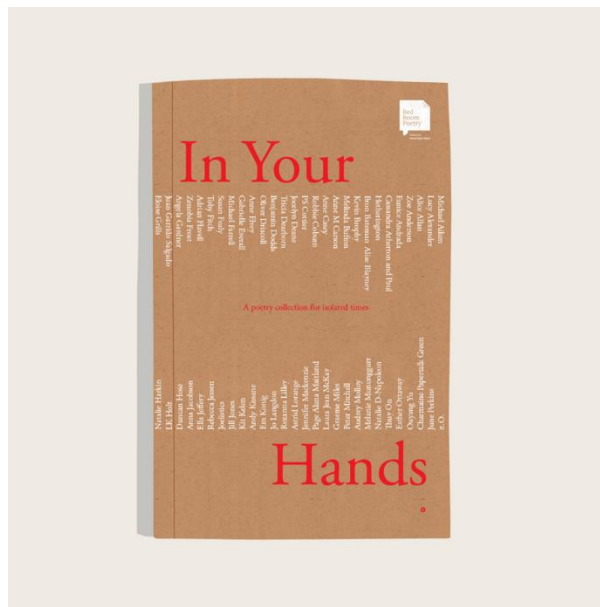
**Minaira Fífita** is a visual and performing artist whose work aspires to reflect her love of creation and faith in the unity of humanity. Her style of creativity blends together her Polynesian and Celtic roots and experiences of vibrancy, balance and harmony within the Pacific and her spiritual beliefs as a Bahá'í.



***Ruha and Minaira Fífita soon to be featured in Kids Book Review***

# About Illuminations

*Illuminations* reunites the design and editorial team behind *Magic Fish Dreaming*, Matilda Elliot and Heidi Den Ronden, but introduces two new illustrators, Ruha and Minaira Fifita, and one new editor, Belinda Belton, to the Gumbootsppearlz Press team. 'Boonah Morning' was included the Red Room Poetry Anthology to assist Australian Poets launching during COVID19, *In Your Hands* April 2020. Several works were originally included in *Tokens*, Baha'is of Philadelphia, United States of America, publication, and some have previously appeared on June's poetry blog <http://ripplepoetry.wordpress.com> June has just been invited by the Queensland Poetry Festival to contribute to the Panacea Poets project. Video performance of her poetry forthcoming.



## Articles

<https://firebirdfeathers.com/2020/05/21/celebrating-new-books-in-troublesome-times-11-june-perkins/>

<http://www.scbwiaustralianz.com/our-blog/2020/6/21/june-perkins-new-poetry-and-story-collection>

<https://shareyourstorypublishing.com/june-perkins/>

## Links

June Perkins Website:

<https://juneperk.wixsite.com/gumbootsppearlz>

Poetry Blog: <http://ripplepoetry.wordpress.com>

Social media links

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/gumbootsppearlz>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/gumbootsppearlz>

Goodreads:

[https://www.goodreads.com/author/show/6475917.June\\_Perkins](https://www.goodreads.com/author/show/6475917.June_Perkins)

Linkedin: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/june-perkins-15764a99/>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/gumbootsppearlzpress/>

For more information email:

[gumbootsppearlz@gmail.com](mailto:gumbootsppearlz@gmail.com)

## Boonah Morning

Wells of silence, so quiet  
not even a pin drops.

Boonah morning beckons  
the sunrise mist.

Sunrise spills on the fence lines –  
certitude.

Sunrise melody illumines  
the seeker's face.

The bird on the wire greets  
Boonah, with her songs  
for dreamers.