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***Soul Poems:  
Life as Fertile Ground***

***Dedicated to:  
First Lady Michelle Obama***

**Melodye Micëre Van Putten**

SOUL POEMS: LIFE AS FERTILE GROUND

Published by

The Elevator Group

Paoli, Pennsylvania

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Library of Congress Control Number 2009932537

Trade Paperback: ISBN 978-0-9786854-6-1

E-book: ISBN 978-0-9819719-7-1

Jacket and interior design by Stephanie Vance-Patience

Published in the United States by The Elevator Group.

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This book was printed in the United States.

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Reviews for *Soul Poems: Life As Fertile Ground*

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Melodye Micère speaks with a voice of authority and caring. Her Soul Poems demand that we listen, internalize her articulations and enter her landscape of living words. This book is refreshing, thoughtful and welcoming.”

—Dr. Haki Madhubuti University Distinguished Professor and  
Director of the MFA Program in Creative Soul Poems: Life as Fertile Ground Writing at  
Chicago State University. His latest book is LIBERATION NARRATIVES:  
NEW AND COLLECTED POEMS, 1966-2009.

“The poetry is breath-taking, invigorating, engaging, soulful and challenging. It causes the reader to look at history from a different lens. From excitement to empowerment, Soul Poems blesses the reader and speaks life into whatever season the reader thrives.”

—Cheylon Soul Poems: Life as Fertile Ground Brown, Director, Multicultural Center  
University of North Texas, Denton Campus, Denton, Texas

“If you view education as a sacred calling, you Soul Poems: Life as Fertile Ground will love the author’s uncompromising commitment to professionalism and Soul Poems: Life as Fertile Ground excellence. Soul Poems spins vignettes from the life of Soul Poems: Life as Fertile Ground a gifted teacher that are sometimes soft and sexy, sometimes sharp and sassy, but always spiritually insightful. She illuminates the bonds of femaleness that have historically undergirded the strengths of the Black community.”

—Theodore and Elsie Erwin, Educators to Africa  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

“Sista Micère poets in the spirit of love, nationhood and hope. She weaves words like a wordsmith and Soul Poems is worth the reader’s investment.”

—Dr. Kariamuwelsh, Professor and Chair, Department of Dance  
Temple University - Main Campus, Philadelphia, Soul Poems: Life as Fertile Ground

Reviews for *Obamatyme: Election Poetry*

“Melodye Micëre Van Putten is a talented poet whose love for truth and justice is quite evident in *Obamatyme*. Don’t miss it! ”

—Dr. Cornel West, Class of 1943 Professor,  
Princeton University, Princeton, New Jersey

“Van Putten, a premier Africologist, has patented the science of converting theory into praxis with her stellar curriculum, *Black History Workshops for Children*. With *Obamatyme*, Van Putten unabashedly summons and engages all people to courageously practice what scholar Cornel West deemed ‘relentless self-critique.’ *Obamatyme* is much more than a collage of poems; it is a call-to-action... now! The 60’s taught us it was Nation time! Now, it is *Obamatyme*. The fundamental question is how will we respond?”

—Professor Eddie Becton, Department of African American Studies  
Loyola Marymount University, Los Angeles, Los Angeles, California

“*Obamatyme* is a wonderful journey through poetry into the emotions of America in general, and African Americans in particular, regarding the wave known as *Obamatyme*. Micëre seems to have captured the time in some scintillating poetry that takes us *Soul Poems: Life as Fertile Ground* through the chronology of this significant historical period of social change. A learning source of information for high school and college courses, it is well written and well thought out; I will definitely use it in my Introduction to Africana Studies class and suggest it to my faculty colleagues in both sociology and political science as a supplement for into Black politics.”

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## Soul Poems Life As Fertile Ground

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