

Modern Zomi Poetry Anthology

by Various Authors (Ed. Thang Sian Mung)

Zomi Research Institute

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Poem 1: Zogam (Homeland)

by Thang Sian Mung

O Zogam, land of my fathers,
Your hills echo with ancient songs.
Though I wander far from your embrace,
My heart forever to you belongs.

The mist that crowns your mountain peaks,
The streams that sing through verdant vales,
In dreams I walk your forest paths,
And hear the wind tell ancient tales.

Poem 2: Ka Min (My Name)

by Niang Suan Cing

My name carries the weight of generations,
Each syllable a bridge to the past.
In foreign lands they stumble on its sounds,
But in my mothers tongue it stands steadfast.

Ka min - two words that hold a universe,
Of mountain mornings and evening fires,
Of grandmothers stories and grandfathers prayers,
Of a peoples unbroken desires.

Poem 3: Diaspora Dreams

by Pau Lian Mang

We carry our homeland in suitcases,
Packed between clothes and cooking spices.
In apartment kitchens far from home,
The aroma of bawl recreates our places.

Our children speak in borrowed tongues,
But their eyes hold the hills within.
We teach them words like dam and lungdam,
So they know where they begin.

Poem 4: The Weavers Song
by Pi Dim Cing

Thread by thread, color by color,
My grandmother weaves the world.
Red for the blood of our ancestors,
Black for the nights they endured.

Her fingers dance like mountain streams,
Creating patterns old as time.
In every cloth a story lives,
In every knot a paradigm.

Poem 5: Tomorrow
by Kham Sian Pau

Tomorrow we will teach our children
The words their great-grandparents spoke.
Tomorrow we will write our stories
In the language that time almost broke.

But tomorrow starts with today,
With every word we choose to say,
In Zomi, in our mothers tongue,
We keep our heritage young.