

## THE PROLOGUE

The title: **The maiden of the Isle\*\***

The subtitle: **Back to poetry\***

**T**he word *poetry* derives from the Greek word *ποίησις* (poiesis) and from the same root we have the words *poet*, *poem*, *poetic*.

*Poetry* is a form of literary art which uses the *aesthetic* qualities of language to evoke meanings, in addition to the ostensibly prosaic meaning.

In Aristotle's "*Poetics*" there is an ancient definition of *poetry*, focused on the uses of speech in *rhetoric*, *drama*, *music* and *comedy*. (Wikipedia).

It is true that nowadays our life has become unbearably... prosaic. The life we lead today is almost empty of... *metaphors*, *similes*, *allegories*, *real rhythm*, *rhyme*, *euphony*, *metonymy* and all those *poetic* elements that give us prestige.

I believe that, besides language, *poetry* also represents our values, our principals, our emotions, our families and even our friends.

"**Back to poetry**" means back to *idealism*, *democracy*, justice, kindness, sincere smiles, love, and back to common sense. That's real *poetry*, I think.

And... mind you; *poetry* has no buyers. It has only... "lovers"! This truth leads me to the conclusion that "*we should not feel sorry for the poet who has no public, but for the public that has no poet!*"

But what about the people who write *poetry*? Are they *poets*? Well, if you ask my opinion, there is a difference between *poets* and *poem-writers*. I just like to write *poems*.

<<<>>>

In the year 2005, one of my books was published with the title "**Back to the Island**". The island is Poros, in the Saronic Gulf. For this new book of *poetry* I chose the poetic title "**The Maiden of the Isle**". The Isle is Poros of course, but who is the Maiden? Well it's a famous mountain range they call "**The Sleeping Maiden**" (see book cover) that has become the *symbol* of Poros and Troizinia, the whole

province around the island.

And this *title* is a dedication, as well as some kind of *apology*, to that *symbolic* sleeping maiden, **the Maiden of the Isle**, for the recently erected wind-turbines, right on her ... "*stomach*".

Up to now my *poems* have been written and published in Greek. However, through this excellent translation, which is not a literal but a literary one, my *poems* acquire an extra value in English. I'm certain that the readers will discover new... "secrets" in the English version of the verses.

Please forgive my pride and... exaggeration, when I say that "every Greek island is as picturesque as a *poem*". Those sentiments justify the title **The Maiden of The Isle**, subtitled *Back to Poetry*. The use of both means... **Back to the island**. Thank you.

Aris Adanis

\*All the words above in italics are *etymologically* Greek.

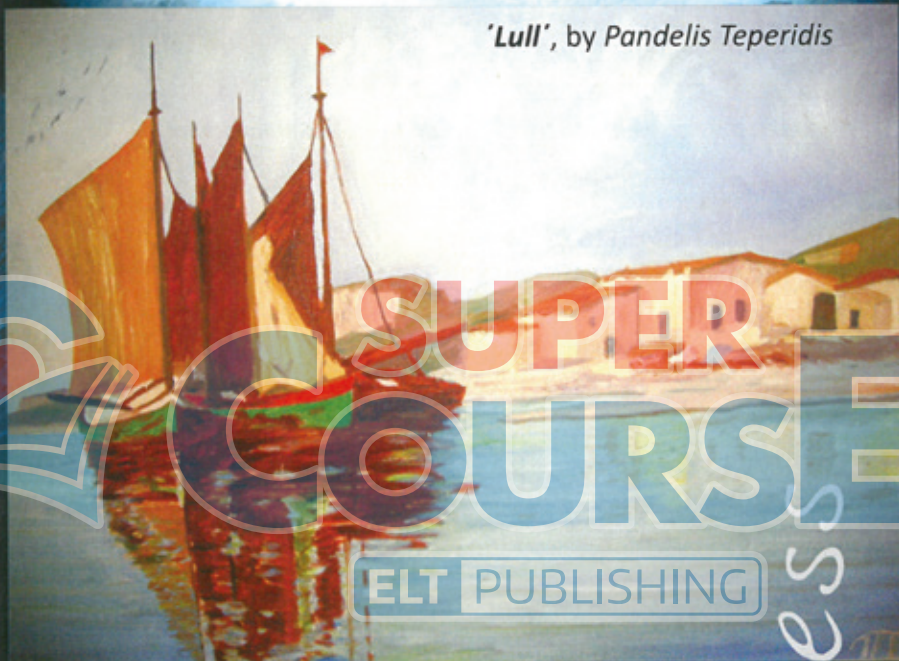
\*\* In Greece there are 9835 islands (!!!), according to the research (insularography, *nesiography*) made by the *nessologist* Mr. George K. Giagakis. (*Nissi*, is the Greek word for island)

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'Lull', by Pandelis Teperidis



## Bitterness

I was worth a great deal, I thought,  
as *you* loved me one season.  
Now I know my merit is naught,  
for exactly the same reason. []

Bitterness

## A Tribute

*"...that it may go well with thee..." (from the 5<sup>th</sup> Commandment)*

...if the life I chose to lead,  
and my acts did not succeed

...if the principles I sidestepped,  
and the promises I kept unkept

...if my life's wrong turnings taken,  
and my solemn vows forsaken

...if my ruthless paths of apathy,  
and my endless lack of sympathy

...and if my expectations unfulfilled,  
with time and chances lost and spilled,

hinder me from claiming I am their son,  
no living being or righteous one,  
divine or not, cannot  
begrudge my filial pride  
or my sentiments deride  
when I utter...

he was my father  
and she was my mother. []



感官

SUPER  
COURSE

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*'Senses', by Marilyn Tate Adanis*



## Hai-ku

Common human race  
common dignity and truth  
common sense from all.



# SUPER COURSE

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## Keami Maha Tahandra

In my dream last night you did appear,  
uttering "Keami Maha Tahandra" in my ear.  
To what end is this exotic phrase?  
Are you chiding me, or is it praise?

"My answer encompasses in every way  
those words repeated now throughout the day.  
Keami Maha Tahandra you will hear  
till the meaning mellows to crystal clear." []