



## **Elizabeth Macarthur High School, 2014 *Music + Poetry*, with poet Luka Lesson**

Celebrated spoken word poet Luka Lesson staged a performance for 160 Year 7 students from Elizabeth Macarthur High School before guiding them through their own writing experiences as part of the Music + Poetry program.

Red Room Poetry Education inspires students and teachers to create, perform and publish poetry. We enliven experiences with poetry by bringing contemporary poets into classrooms across Australia to run intensive writing workshops that awaken imaginations, support creative opportunities and curriculum outcomes.

Red Room Poetry Education at Elizabeth Macarthur High School, 2014  
[redroomcompany.org/education/](http://redroomcompany.org/education/)



**By Jimmy F.**

There was a field in the middle of an island.  
It is the field of love. The field can change  
the mind of any manor woman who steps  
into the flowers or the field.

The field has been corrupted though,  
the new generation has brought illogic,  
judgement and anger to the field,  
a combination which is damaging  
to the mind. It has blinded the natives  
of the island. Yet, there is hope. True,  
the native wars and hatred had affected  
the fertility and hope of the island due to  
the arrival of the new generation,  
but there is a patch of flowers,  
flowers immune to the new generation's  
curse. These flowers are a special kind  
these flowers are the 1% they have powers  
of happiness, love and health,  
all three powers  
needed to save the field of love.

One day the 1% of the natives, a young girl,  
went searching for help. She came across  
the flowers and brought them to the field.  
Almost instantly the flower had cured the  
island.  
This included the new generation. the field of  
love was saved and stronger than ever.  
All was peaceful.  
Now if only this could happen in reality.  
That would be perfect.

**By Ryan S.**

The rain comes down with sadness and the sun shines  
with happiness over the horizon. Which came upon a boy  
with inspiration. The boy wasn't popular, he was lonely.  
But the dream was 500,000km away from the place.  
He came with an idea but that was a tough way to get.  
The bushes, rain, animals and pain was in the way  
but he remembered the quote,  
"what doesn't kill you makes you stronger".  
A few weeks later he came to the destination.  
He thought that getting here was a sunshine everyday.

**The Great Land**

By Zac R.

The sun shines on the land of the great.  
A few years ago no sun shone.  
It was destroyed by the generations.  
Death on this land was a common thing.  
Death is a drug that destroys.  
But was doesn't kill you makes you stronger.  
The surviving land grew and made new land  
where the sun now shines.

**Bali**

By Nathan H.

Tropical sunshine until you see the hidden side.  
The kids in the country living in poverty but  
wearing large smiles so they can have  
dinner that night.

Takes 24 hours to travel around the island but for a  
small place it gets a lot of tourists who take the  
world for granted.

But remember what you see on the outside  
is an imposter until you see  
the inner self.

**The World Cup**

By Jason

Quite Punchy and upbeat.  
The world cup is no retreat.  
No peace, nor quiet, just cheering and singing.  
The energy is electric, the tension is still, all is quiet.  
On the beaches, in the city, the sand, water un-  
touched.  
As this is truly the world game, creating peace  
but war between the football.  
While ten thousand strong maybe more,  
all sing for football. As their countries fight for the  
ball  
like their lives depended on it.  
This is the world game.



**By Shivanti V.**

The words of change came with some struggle  
but if there is a will there is a way.  
In a mind of immense thoughts there is still a  
place or pure pleasure, somewhere your dreams  
can fly free.

All of the same ways continue until a light of hope  
appears in the distance. The tears of joy  
are blooming flowers in search of paradise  
joy is a soothing cup of tea racing  
to indulge your heart.  
Inspiration is a growing light.

**The Classroom**

By Tayla

The steady silence continued  
pens touching paper as students  
began to write.  
There were really weird sounds  
from within the room.  
Except no sound from one little child,  
his joy had disappeared.  
But yet happiness is there just buried  
deep, deep down inside.  
He was dead silent.

**By Jade**

A place to call a loving home  
where good creatures roam  
where Bilbo Baggins lives his life  
without stress without strife.  
600 steps up to his hole,  
his neat and tidy hobbit hole.  
His hair is blazing fire  
as he dwelled in the shire.

**Can you guess why?**

By Ryan S.

White people are shouting  
black people are running  
a gas cloud that keeps people who are black  
it also ruins their lives by keeping them back.  
Every time someone stands they eventually fall.  
When a black meets a white they will eventually  
fight.  
Can you guess why?  
It's like the great Dr Martin Luther King once did.  
He stood up and never fell down  
until there was a spark of hope  
he fell too  
can you guess why?  
If you're one of these people stand up  
if you fall down get back up because  
while the white people start shouting  
and the black people start running  
there is always a spark of hope  
can you guess why?

**By Sevel S.**

Life is like a stick of fairy floss  
spinning and spinning  
getting confused  
but when it's finished  
it holds, it understands.

**By Rory M.**

My freedom is a voice that is being silenced  
because truth screamed from the throat  
of the minority means as little as the lies uttered  
from the majority.

The majority that is trying to keep their words  
unspoken. Trying to keep their spirits broken,  
but it's to no avail.

Knowledge is the new holy grail.

They can't be silenced, not with force, not with power  
but their words have become sour  
because rights have been taken  
human rights and human rights mean rights  
for everyone, not just for you two.  
So be different, be proud  
let your own voice be loud  
They try to stifle us, they try to deny us...  
our rights  
but those are rights for which we will fight.



**By Ashley B.**

In a land where potatoes and tomatoes  
once grew it is all but now lost. There are  
now mushroom that grow in the darkness  
of the land with no sun. Darkness and  
despair looms around each and every  
individual corner. The ones who once  
lived left long ago. No it is only them,  
the one's that shan't be spoken of in  
the land where potatoes and tomatoes once  
grew.

**By Connor M.**

Jump into a huge tunnel I didn't know where  
it was leading me.  
Ending up on top a celebrity billionaire  
finishing on the bottom on the streets  
don't remember family sucking away  
at people coins like a leech.  
Life, a rollercoaster that has its highs & lows  
Life ends up good if I choose to make it that  
way.

**By Saujana**

This sound  
rushing to escape  
anything can happen now  
pain, hate, lost souls,  
lurking in the shadows  
it holds the future  
destruction, even war,  
it won't stop,  
until everything is in darkness.

**By Zaynah D.**

Sad is life, pain in every corner  
stabbing you in the back  
confusing you endlessly  
weird in this world  
depressed, chaos and deaths  
memories floating around  
yet here you are in this broken world  
smiling, laughing and grinning  
not giving up  
showing people how to be happy  
cause in this awful place you need  
a bit of hope.

**Rap**

By Julia

There is only one food  
that can make you fabulous  
Pie! Pie is delicious-tasty & scrumptious  
going through the digestive system.  
Relaxation is what you feel when you eat a pie  
special & beautiful for once in your life  
depressed isn't a way to live  
just listen to the birds  
there's only one food for me.  
Pie!

**By Brandon**

Sadness sweeps over our city &  
makes happy people sad.  
It continues to do so every waking  
minute.  
This futuristic city is so das that it stops  
its people from victory.

**By Charlene**

Life is slow, fast  
happy like a dance  
death is freakish and painful  
but not so cheerful.  
The memories of the past  
are repeating quite fast.  
The spinning memories  
inside my head as I see death  
right ahead.  
The life now gone.

**By Djosser F.**

People are coming going like a subway  
eatin subway fresh with David Blane  
he will go *poof poof* a bunch of  
hocus poucs and teleport you to genius  
turns out you're made out of mega pixels  
and in a Disney pixar film.  
But first you must rewind time  
and remaster the time you spent  
making money because money is time  
and time is money.

**By Bradley M.**

Freaky, funky monkeys, riding on their spooky  
donkeys.  
They arrive at the party and decide to eat a  
smartie.  
Joy, fun, happiness, explosion and then  
come the robots in an implosion.  
Behind them is a waddling penguin with a  
strut and then cut.  
the penguin lost his head and now he is  
dead.  
Crash, crack, splat, slash go the robots as  
they join the party bash.  
Non-stop party, dancing, singing and kara-  
oke.  
They party all night until they get hungry  
when they go out for dinner and eat some  
fungi.

**By Aaron H.**

Many people in war are desperate for  
change  
some have need for help and are full of  
confusion.  
They have fear and worry for friends and  
family beside them  
as they march to battle they expect demoli-  
tion.  
They stepped out of the bunker and saw  
all the trees like torches burning thought the  
night  
they all lined up to fight. Wary of loved ones  
at home  
begging freedom from the friends they used  
to know  
saying sorry and hoping god will save their  
soul.

**By Zoe H.**

Everyone is unique in their own way  
so be nice to everybody and be happy  
everyone has different beliefs and races.  
So let them be themselves and the world  
will be a better place.

**By Ben**

The world cup in Brazil, filled with spirits  
of free will.  
A festival of joy, everywhere,  
look, football fanatic boys.  
Brilliant food and brand new shoes, a  
festival of joy.

**By Fajr**

A poison strawberry  
which causes death  
a lightning storm causing pain  
death, despair, loneliness and light,  
sparkling yellow, burning and bright  
a fire in the distance bright warm  
now the destruction will start to swarm.



### **Death is a river that never ends**

By Sora S.

I am here to tell you of the evil that lurks in happiness.  
Even the happiest place on earth isn't safe.  
Happiness is a window created to fend off a creature.

A creature with fear running through its veins  
who feeds on darkness in light as ying and yang prophesises  
he can move to punish man and lives beyond our vision.  
His existence prospers in jealousy, rage,  
madness, envy  
all sins of man.

### **By Katelyn O.**

To sink into a dream.  
With love that turns into magic  
the "come true" fairytale  
with a friend, even if you  
are alone at home  
you can still dream of the love  
you deserve, with sinking into  
a dream comes the power  
to love, live and laugh.  
To live in a reality with  
something I love is already my  
sinking dream.

### **By Zarif**

A group of men came to the club  
inside luxurious limos and cars.  
Walked into the club.  
People looked as they walked past.  
Music made everyone, but the men,  
dance. Due to depression and stress,  
he said, *I hate my life!*  
Suddenly they jumped and imagined  
themselves in the beach.

### **By Luke D.**

She was running down an ally  
tears falling from her eyes.  
Someone was chasing after her  
dressing in black and white.  
It carried a think steel blade  
and had a wicked grin.  
He was walking towards her slowly  
laughing like a hyena does in the wild.  
The little girl was crying  
tears rushing down her eyes  
she was as still as a statue  
as the air blew in the night.

### **Loved Ones**

**By Allen**

My country.  
Pain and gain is the method  
of the way I live. wuth every  
painful thing I do follows any  
type of gain. This is the way  
I live, don't stop me, torture me,  
pull me back because you know  
that I won't be holding back much  
longer.  
Don't even think of separating my loved  
ones  
and me because you know I won't be  
holding back.  
You can resist me, mock me, but  
don't hold me back. Pain is a joy,  
a type of joy that holds us back  
from what we want.

### **By Connor L.**

Sitting high up in the Ferris wheel  
with Huge Jackman.  
We're in carriage number 47.  
He is forced into the wolverine.  
Joy is a pizza flying across the room.  
"Hey bub," – Huge Jackman/Wolverine

**By Jaquini**

There was a shiny golden house  
With Jimmy living in it without a single mouse  
Jimmy is always neat 100% neat  
Jimmy is a lightning bolt that  
quickly completes things.

**By Nathaniel**

The music is sad,  
feelings are sad.  
It is like a scene  
from a very bad dream  
where there is a giant bug  
underneath your rug.  
Louder, louder, louder  
The tune is getting faster,  
Louder, higher, louder  
as high as it can muster.

**A Roundabout  
By Sarah**

When my brother was in a car  
behind his dad's bike when he  
was on it.

But the worst thing happened.  
A white van came in the intersection  
and his dad did come in the intersection  
and they both collided, and my brother's  
dad died right in front of him.

Brandon's dad had a 100%  
close bond with him and Brandon  
still misses him. Brandon had a really  
bad pain when he died, now every  
time Brandon sees a motorbike,  
it reminds him of his dad and  
he cries.

Greg loved Brandon so much  
that he would drop everything  
for him, and so would Brandon  
for Greg.

**Ethan H.**

As Tim scores a goal,  
the team cheers with beams  
the ball took the goal itself.  
BJ the DJ the sound effects,  
they all relate like he suffocates  
the ball. BAM.

**Jade F.**

The endless oceans captured  
the sinking ship.  
The violinist played calm  
and relaxing music that everyone  
ignored. Birds flew past  
from thousands of metres away.  
The ship was sinking  
and sounded like Fiona's awful  
singing. Pain and suffering is  
like being buried alive,  
never say goodbye

**Emiley C.**

The park was filled with butterflies.  
As I catch them, Holly stomps  
on the ones I miss  
Butterfly Butterfly Butterfly  
fly away.

**Harrison**

Joy is a gift  
from me to you.  
Close your eyes  
and you will see a happy place  
of fantasy and infinite realms.  
You'll never feel down.

**Amelia S.**

The black forest surround myself  
from the outside world. I feel  
dark shadows watch me.  
Life is grass that grows,  
dies and becomes reborn.  
That is what I know. I also know  
that to die would be an awfully  
big adventure. I hope that is true

**Hamish W.**

A bird chirps, playing a flute-like  
sound, but in the background  
a sound like the bass of a drum  
a wingsuiting danger approaches  
slow motion. Activates everything  
rushes through my head. Tacos.  
Italy. Mexico. Flume a good party,  
This is music I seek.

**Eiffel Tower  
Ashleigh S.**

We are at the Eiffel Tower.  
Mariah's sitting on the grass.  
We need to be back at the hotel  
by 8 o'clock.

Life in Paris is a bunch  
of flowers that lasts forever.  
Mariah would rather wear  
flowers in her hair than  
diamonds around her neck.

**Bree**

The beach was filled with people,  
2 miles away from an ice creamery.  
We should all love the simple things  
in life.

**Mariah T.**

Life on a sinking ship  
is pressure and worrying  
but not for long until you're on  
the bottom of the ocean, where  
you will be free forever  
and in silence forever.

**Tayla S.**

I love cute kittens,  
they are small cuddly things.  
Some are black, some white.  
A world made of chocolate  
was destroyed by a kitten  
from another planet.  
20 things had tried to destroy  
the planet, but the smallest  
succeeded. Life is a box  
of chocolates. If one gets  
eaten, the rest go with it.

"If you don't succeed,  
get back up and try again."

**The Beach  
Maddy**

We went out on the boat,  
we stayed out for 2 hours.  
Peacefulness is the deep blue  
ocean that is calm.  
I'd like to " come from a land  
of under."

**The Hobbit's Encounter with the Spider  
Anonymous**

Frodo paced around his Uncle's house,  
thinking about the adventure to come.  
Out the door, with all he would need.  
He turned around to have one  
final look at the house he loved  
and saw the number 23 written  
upon it. He thought it was nothing,  
so he walked away from the house  
he loved.

Joy is an adventure that takes you  
to a forest. As he walked, a quote  
a wise man once said popped  
into his head. The quote was,  
"Pity the dead, not the living.  
And above all, pity those  
without love."

Out of nowhere, a spider came  
and popped into his head.  
The spider was poisonous,  
venom crawling everywhere,  
killing everything. The he chopped  
it with his sword and killed it.

**Dylan F.**

The hawk flew over lots of trees  
filled with squirrel; the hawk  
was screeching at them because  
they took her son Quirrel.  
They were stealing sandwiches  
from the table. This caused  
the birds to fly to a stable.

**Brock C.**

The colours and flashes of lights  
fill the street in the night heat.  
It all seems overwhelming as  
the carnival party has started. Samba  
fills the hearts of all in Brazil.

A wave of cars in the neon lights  
as people on their phones  
constantly walk across the road.  
The advertisements happen  
on the electronic billboards  
as buskers play, ignored  
by all passersby in New York.

**Giordan D.M.**

Up high in the sky,  
you see him flying,  
ignoring the laws of gravity.  
The bird can go hundreds  
of miles without realising  
that if the world was a gravity  
vortex, he would be king.  
But don't fly too close  
to the sun, because  
you will burn.

## Poet Bio

Luka Lesson is a Greek-Australian writer cut from a different cloth. With an original and yet instantly classic style Luka's work touches people from all walks of life, holding a humanity simultaneously intricate and eternal.

Since exploding onto the scene in 2010, Luka has constantly influenced those who witness his work to pick up a pen again, or endeavour to write for the first time.

A winner of Slams, including the Australian Poetry Slam final & Melbourne Poetry Festival final, and a songwriter from way back, Luka spent 2012 touring writers' festivals and independent venues throughout Australia, Asia, Oceania and North America. Luka Lesson is both a Hip-hop artist and performance poet and is one of those rare talents that can successfully traverse the complex landscape of both traditions. His latest album 'Please Resist Me' is a powerful combination of the two.

Luka is also committed to standing with communities of all backgrounds to establish a connection between social issues, poetry and self-empowerment.

His experience in working as a workshop facilitator with both hip-hop and poetry is almost unparalleled and includes experiences in China, The Bronx (USA), Indigenous programs in Australia and a residency at Melbourne's premier private secondary institution, Xavier College, in Melbourne.



## About Us

The Red Room Company creates unusual and useful poetry projects that transform expectations of, and experiences with, poetry. We aspire to make poetry accessible to all, especially those who face the greatest barriers to creative opportunities.

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