

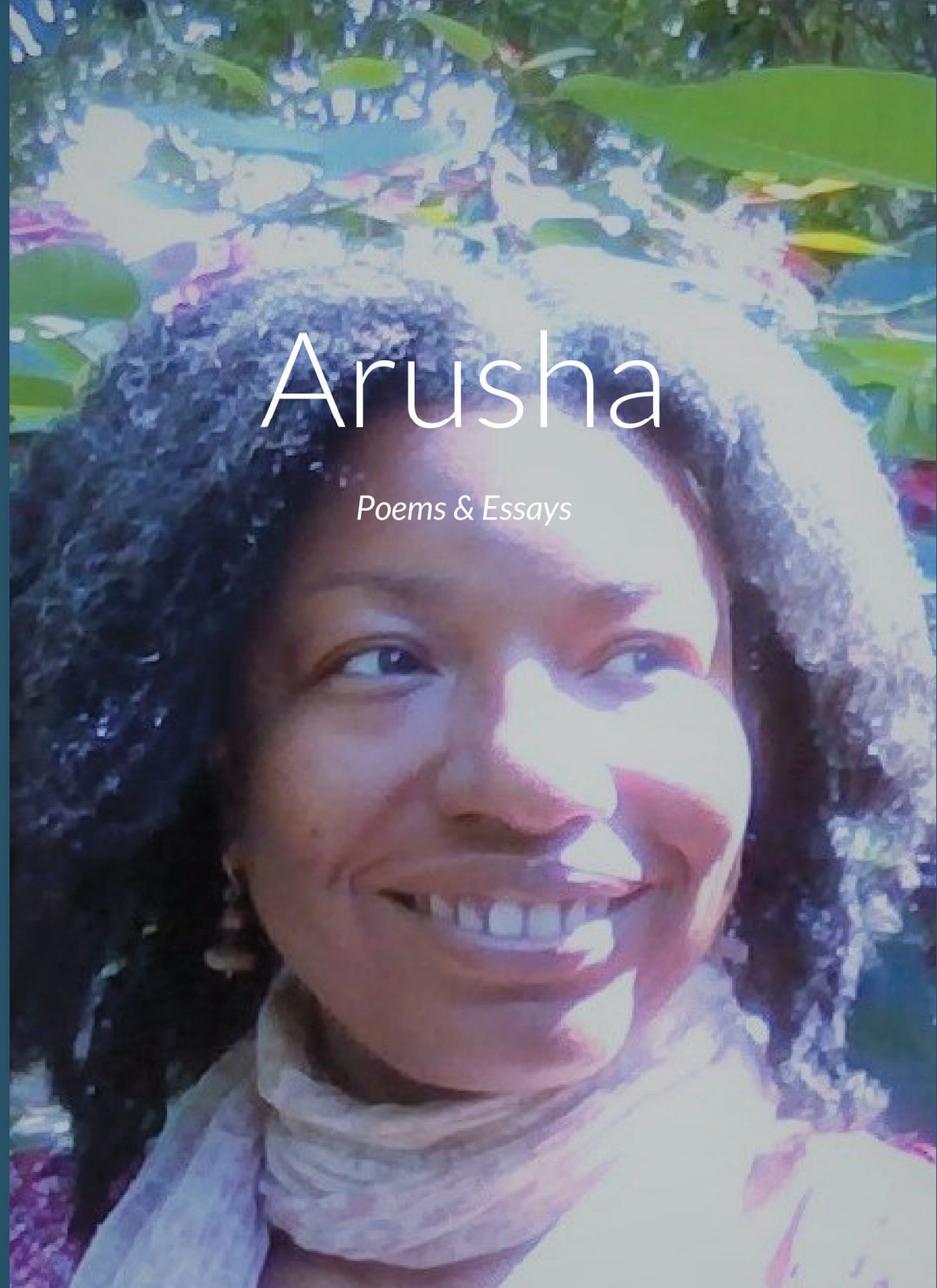
When life hands you lemons, you paint that shit gold. Many residents of the United States who traveled outside their borders for a vacation against racial, socio-political, and economic violence in 2020 brought gold spray paint, glitter, confetti, and ribbons with which to bedazzle their lemons. Africa called me, I answered. On my own journey, I turned towards the unknown, which meant either adventure and excitement or disaster and consequence. So, faced with a dilemma, I solved the riddle. I decided every day would be adventure and excitement. Any disaster or consequence would become an opportunity to learn from what life decided to show me. And once I made up my mind on this, the four-year reign of terror in my life otherwise known as writer's block finally lifted and allowed me passage. We humans are social creatures, not islands. Even the loners and introverts cannot survive inside a vacuum with their sanity intact. The world is a better place when we live and thrive in harmony. Thank you to those who made my world a better place to live. Lee McQueen has a library science degree from SUNY-Buffalo and a political science degree from Xavier University. She has been a librarian and a teacher, as well as researcher, copywriter, editor, and publisher.

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Poems & Essays



Lee McQueen