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## EDITORIAL

### Poetry of The Poets, Operations of The Surgeons

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I am not going to claim that poets are like surgeons. That would be pointless. Are all people not from the same descent? So what if poets are not like surgeons and shoe shiners are not like painters.

He has good hands they say, when praising a surgeon. This means that particular surgeon performs operations successfully. I believe this saying is rather shallow than complimentary. In the smallest towns of the countries where we cannot even remember, there are hundreds of people being treated by successful operations every single day. In other words, humanity does not face perishing in the hands of bad surgeons. To operate could be learned. Those who want to learn and who respect their duties may learn and become a success. I personally have not seen a bad surgeon to the present day. On the other hand, there were enough surgeons among those who were ignorant, unaware of their ignorance and had no interest in learning.

People also compare a good operative procedure to poetry. Poetry! It is such a thing that may imply beauty by itself. For instance, I have never heard surgery being compared to photography or painting; they only claim surgery is poetry. They mean that the existence of poetry is always beautiful if it really exists. Is it? Is poetry necessarily beautiful?

I believe poetry is a harmonious group of words that emerge when plain sentences are inadequate to express our feelings. For the person who feels such emotions that words and sentences are no longer enough, the thoughts of third parties would not matter no more. In my opinion, for those people, it is not important to be called poets and those who attribute a meaning or importance to the name poet are not feeling such emotions to deserve that title.

On the other hand, the way those who try express their feelings in any other way than prose calling what they write poetry and call themselves poets and feel as they deserve the title is certainly pathological. It is far from maturity. All pathological matters are not necessarily far from maturity. Or being mature does not require not being pathological. This pathological stand further includes even more pathological states.

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We often see those who call themselves poets are not friendly with others doing similar things as themselves. Almost none of them seem to enjoy any other poetry written by their colleagues and finally claim that poetry is downgraded now that everyone is a poet. We could perhaps understand such disapproval if they kept some of it to themselves, however, this is mostly among statements in their first interview. I am personally bored with such comments in interviews with poets that I run across.

Not once have I been able to write poetry. Because I have never been so hopeless that writing poetry seemed like a necessity. I read, cried, prayed, spoke or wrote prose; which helped cure my hopelessness. But I still wish I could have written poetry. As much as I see this as a shortcoming, there is not much I can do about it. I only find relief in the following lyrical words from the Prologue of Ismet Ozel's poetry book:

If I knew how to live, would I ever be writing poetry? / Live: If I knew / Write: Would I? / Ever: Poetry.

A person that treasures poetry so dearly, in the end could question if he would ever write it; and we can comfortably read his inquiry. As Attar says, if you are sleepy, just go to sleep. Good night.

Art is something that is with me, but science; it is with us. Therefore, the moment we say, this is how I do it, we are no longer talking in science. Among surgeons, there are many who claim this is my method, however, many others are applying those procedures that they call mine. What could they do when they are unaware of others' methods; the only thing they can do is to claim it's their own. And those who claim this is my method are the same ones who are prejudiced against the works of others. At this very point, the situation is similarly pathological as in so-called poets.

Yet, there is only one single purpose in applying surgeries: to help people. But this sure is not possible with one single person! Even when considering an average surgery lasts 2 hours and that surgeon works 12 hours a day; that surgeon could perform 6 surgeries a day and 1800 a year. Imagine that surgeon performing operations non-stop throughout the year for 50 years, he could only help 90,000 people. Whereas, in our world of 5 Billion people, maybe 90,000 people were operated by surgeons just today.

So, what was the point of my writing all these? We need every single person in the world with the things they do. No one's surgery, no one's poetry, no one's photography, no one's novel needs to be more beautiful than anyone else's.

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People should do what they do with love. Produce things. And maybe with those products, we will learn to do what we do more beautifully.

Maybe those will help us define and distinguish between good or bad, beautiful or ugly. Isn't it nice to have such options?

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