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# Introduction

### At the Edge of the Joke

This book isn't for the hopeful.

It's for the ones who see through the glitter, who feel the weight of breath, who know the system was rigged before they ever got a name.

These poems are not solutions.

They're sirens.

They're spirals.

They're proof that even in the wrong era, we still speak. To the five:
my blood, my reason, my riot.
You didn't ask to be born into this mess,
but you show up anyway.
You laugh louder than the noise,
you love harder than the system allows,
and you remind me daily
why I keep burning.

This book is for you.
not because the world deserves your light,
but because it tried to dim it
and failed.

It's for the ones who never fit,
who never folded,
who never stopped asking
why the rules were written
by people who never had to follow them.

It's for the ones who mark spirals
on blackout pages,
who build altars from broken things,
who turn pain into poetry
and silence into survival.

This isn't a tribute.
To every system that tried to tame us,
we're still here.
Still uncut.
Still unfit.
Still refusing.

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## I Was Never Meant to Blend



I was born in the glitch,
not the golden hour,
not the clean blueprint.
Dropped into a system
already cracking,
already laughing
at the ones who still believe.

They paved over the stars
and called it progress.
Built towers to hide the burnout,
cars to chase silence,
votes to decorate cages.
And we clapped
because the script said "applause."

I never asked to be here.

Never opted in.

But I mark spirals on blackout pages
to remind the void
I'm not theirs.
I'm not bought.
I'm not quiet.

This era ain't mine.
It speaks in ads,
breathes in debt,
and dreams in pixels.
I dream in fire.
I dream in refusal.
I dream in rituals
that bite back.

So if you're here looking for hope, you won't find it wrapped in lies.

You'll find it raw, uncut, and burning.



#### System Error: Retry Later



Tried to reboot the world.

Got a 404.

*Tried to fix the rules.* 

Got banned.

Tried to care.

Got tired.

The system runs on error codes and empty promises.

Every update just breaks something new.

We refresh the page but nothing loads.

We scream into forms that never submit.