We Mark This Land

We mark this land, we mark this land
roundabouts and rectangles
hexagonal pavers that tesselate
concentric circles that circulate
we square these circles
then circle our wagons
we love our triangles
and defend our pentagons
we pencil in perfection
perimeters we plot in chalk
fragments we can never own
fragments we can never hold
we mark this land, we mark this land
tracing crooked lines into the sand

Neil Daswani

Neil Daswani, from Singapore hails from a family of professors of English Literature. With no formal training in poetry, he wrote sporadically in his youth, followed by a “lunga pausa”. Then, this erstwhile career banker working from his pandemic purgatory, wrote six books of poetry. His work has been showcased at the Singapore Writers Festival, The Singapore Book Publishers Association and at the Jaipur and Bangalore Literature Festivals as well as in poetry anthologies published in the US, UK and South East Asia. He has acted in a hybrid award winning art movie Saahasi (brave one) Dateline Singapore. Recently his poem “A Change in Trajectory” published by Mayari Literature was nominated for the 2026 Pushcart Prize for Poetry.

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