

The Gardener of Verses

籤的朗誦者

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Tzu-Yin Chin has spent her life suppressing her emotions, hiding behind a polite smile every day. One night, she has a strange dream and meets a gardener tending to a neglected garden. The gardener, troubled by the state of the garden—now overrun with decaying and withered plants—shares their concerns with her.

The gardener offers Tzu-Yin a magical fortune-telling cylinder, which reveals her true emotions each time she draws a fortune. Slowly, forgotten feelings and memories resurface, prompting her to confront what she has long ignored.

With intricate artwork, poetic dialogue, and characters navigating confusion and growth, graphic artist Tonn Hsu crafts a stunning comic that is rich in wisdom and emotion. This visually captivating story invites readers to reflect on self-discovery and the importance of tending to the gardens of their own hearts.



Tonn Hsu, a Taipei-based illustrator and comic artist, graduated from the Sculpture Department of National Taiwan University of Arts and is rarely without a beverage while drawing. In 2017, Hsu won the Rookie Award at the 6th LINE WEBTOON Newcomer Contest for the comic A Piece of Me.



The Road to Self-Healing: Nurturing the Garden of the Soul

by Yuni

The Gardener of Verses unfolds with poetic language and delicate, beautiful prose, gradually revealing themes of adolescence, youth, and growth.

The protagonist, Tzu-Yin Chin, has always been passionate about reading and writing. In pursuit of her dream of becoming a writer, she decides to quit her job and dedicate herself fully to her creative work. Despite her severe allergy to flowers—so severe that a mere touch can cause her to faint—Tzu-Yin accidentally touches a flower at a classmate's wedding, leading her to fall into a tranquil, expansive, and strange

garden.

This dreamlike garden symbolizes Tzu-Yin's inner world. In the garden, the sprawling plants reflect her mind and body, where every flower and tree represents her thoughts, forming a clever connection between the person, her body, and the plants. "The matters of the heart are never small. Healing the heart is the greatest task," says the gardener, Chien-Jan, to Tzu-Yin.

Through the guidance of fortunetelling poems, Tzu-Yin gradually uncovers the emotional knots and fears she had long avoided. These concerns—tied to family, friendship, and aspirations—compel her to face them one by one. As she resolves these issues, she transforms her inner garden from a withered, broken space into a vibrant sanctuary, filled with bravery and free from pain.

The Gardener of Verses intricately portrays the personalities of its characters, using the plot and imaginative scenes to explore the subtle relationships formed during childhood, school, and life's encounters. The story illuminates the journey of self-growth, resonating deeply with readers on every page. The first book introduces compelling

foreshadowing, leaving readers eager to follow the continuation of the story and the development of its characters and plot.

Yuni, born in 1998, she loves photography, reading, and writing. Recently, she's developed a keen interest in comics, enjoying the detailed analysis of panels, lines, and shadows. She is improving her skills in visual storytelling and has published a few articles on her blog and online media. Currently, she's working on a project that blends text and comics, set for release in 2025.















