

We're happy to share that we pay our contributors and writers a small remuneration with the hope that writing and the literary arts are appreciated properly. For fiction, poetry, essays and the art work we feature, we pay 8000/- per piece.

From,
The Editors at RBTL

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

Read Between The Lines publishes works that explore Pakistani culture, history, and ideology.

- While we primarily publish works in English, we also welcome translations from Pakistan's diverse regional languages. Please ensure that you have obtained the original author's consent wherever possible.
- Submit your entries to thewriterslabpk@gmail.com, following the guidelines for your specific genre.
- From Issue 2 onwards, we will only consider previously unpublished works.
- Please send your most polished draft. If selected, be open to constructive editorial feedback.
- Kindly disclose if you have used AI or large language models (LLMs) in creating your work. We do not accept pieces co-authored or generated by AI.

Fiction

- Word count: 1,500–4,000 words
- Include your full name, email address, and total word count in the upper-right corner of your Word document.
- Include a short biographical note (100–150 words) about yourself at the bottom of your Word document.
- Email your submission to thewriterslabpk@gmail.com, with your name and genre in the subject line.

Poetry

- You may submit up to 3 poems in a single Word document.
- Include your full name, email address, and total word count in the upper-right corner of the document.
- Include a short biographical note (100–150 words) about yourself at the bottom of your Word document.
- Email your submission to thewriterslabpk@gmail.com, with your name and genre in the subject line.

Essays

- Word count: 1,000–3,000 words
- Include your full name, email address, and total word count in the upper-right corner of your Word document.
- Include a short biographical note (100–150 words) about yourself at the bottom of your Word document.
- Email your submission to thewriterslabpk@gmail.com, with your name and genre in the subject line.

Artwork

- Submit artwork inspired by the current theme of the issue.
- Send your artwork as a .png file to thewriterslabpk@gmail.com.
- Include a short biographical note (100–150 words) about yourself in the email.
- Include your name and genre in the email subject line.

GUIDELINES FOR ISSUE 2(Spring/Summer):

Theme: Translation as craft and connection

Think back to all the times when you translated your thoughts into another language and how annoying it was to get stuck on a word or expression that just didn't sit accurately. The feeling of settling for less stayed with you in a conversation and you wish you had found the right alternative in that moment. Now zoom in on that and imagine that as your life, how have you felt marginalized, sidelined and misinterpreted because of your ethnic identity that bleeds into one whole Pakistani identity. How would you like to be understood and perceived now in your own words. It's no longer about alienation, it's about attention to all those parts of us that go unseen by our fellow countrymen and women. Think of translation as the bridge or connection to the other side. Please send us your essays on how translation as a craft helps your friends and community update themselves about parts of you they never understood before. Send us fiction that either translates your work or another's, something that needs to exist in our cultural sphere, and send us your poetry, reconstructed, reimagined and translated in the English language the way it ought to be read. Send us artwork that best reflects how it feels when your inner and outer realities merge into a more cohesive self or collective identity.

Please follow the general guidelines above for more detailed instructions about submission.