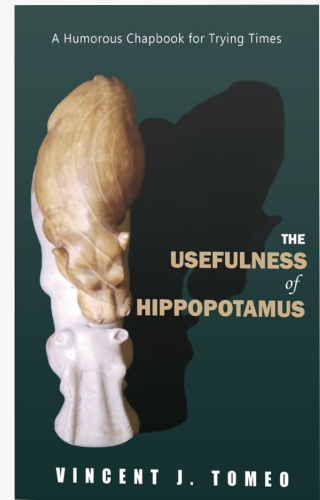


# Humor as Healing in a Hippopotamus-Sized Dose, Chapbook Offers Inspiration

*Vincent J. Tomeo's [The Usefulness of Hippopotamus](#) Brings Laughter and Light to the 2025 Manila International Book Fair*

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In a world shaken by uncertainty, award-winning poet Vincent J. Tomeo reminds readers of the restorative power of laughter with his newest release, [The Usefulness of Hippopotamus: A Humorous Chapbook for Trying Times](#). This delightfully quirky and heartfelt collection celebrates humor as a vital form of healing during hardship—especially in times as trying as the COVID-19 pandemic.



The Usefulness of Hippopotamus: A Humorous Chapbook for Trying Times

Written while the author was battling bladder cancer, *The Usefulness of Hippopotamus* is both a personal journey and a poetic embrace of absurdity, joy, and resilience. Tomeo chose laughter over despair and creativity over isolation, weaving his recovery into every line. The result is a chapbook brimming with wit, whimsy, and wonder—reminding readers that even in the darkest seasons, there is light to be found in the everyday and the unexpected.

A two-time Pushcart Prize nominee and prolific voice in American poetry, Tomeo has published over 1,000 poems and essays, delivered nearly 150 public readings, and earned more than 100 literary awards. His previous book, *My Cemetery Friends*, was widely praised for its depth and humanity. With *The Usefulness of Hippopotamus*, Tomeo brings the same sincerity to humor—proving that the ability to laugh is just as vital as the ability to reflect.

The book will be featured at the 2025 Manila International Book Fair, September 10–14, at the SMX Convention Center Manila, as the cover title of *The Olympus Quill Magazine*.

The Usefulness of Hippopotamus: A Humorous Chapbook for Trying Times is available now on Amazon and other leading digital bookstores. Join the journey—read, smile, and heal.

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