**Clementina Suarez**

Clementina Suarez was the first woman in Honduras to publish a book. She is considered the matriarch of Honduran poetry. She was born in Juticalpa, Olancho, in 1902 and she left her family because they wanted to offer her hand in marriage. She found refuge in the capital city of Tegucigalpa, where she established herself as a revolutionary and feminist writer. She passed away in 1991.

[Source](https://www.radiohouse.hn/2021/01/30/clementina-suarez-la-primera-hondurena-en-publicar-un-libro-de-poesia/#:~:text=Clementina%20Suarez%2C%20la%20primera%20hondure%C3%B1a%20en%20publicar%20un%20libro%20de%20poes%C3%ADa,-30%20enero%2C%202021&text=Clementina%20Su%C3%A1rez%20fue%20una%20poeta,matriarca%20de%20la%20poes%C3%ADa%20hondure%C3%B1a%E2%80%9D.)

*Selected Poem*

(English translation below)

Combate - Clementina Suarez

Yo soy un poeta,

un ejército de poetas.

Y hoy quiero escribir un poema,

un poema silbatos,

un poema fusiles

para pegarlos en las puertas,

en la celda de las prisiones,

en los muros de las escuelas.

Hoy quiero construir y destruir,

levantar en andamios la esperanza.

Despertar al niño

arcángel de las espadas,

ser relámpago, trueno,

con estatura de héroe

para talar, arrasar

las podridas raíces de mi pueblo.

Battle – Clementina Suarez

Translated by Ana Sibrian Zepeda

I am a poet

An army of poets

And today I want to write a poem

A poem whistles

A poem rifles

To stick them in the doors

In the cell of the prisons

On the walls of schools

Today I want to build and destroy

Lift the scaffolding of hope

Wake up the child

Archangel of swords

Be lightning, thunder

With the stature of a hero

To cut, to level

The rotten roots of my country