



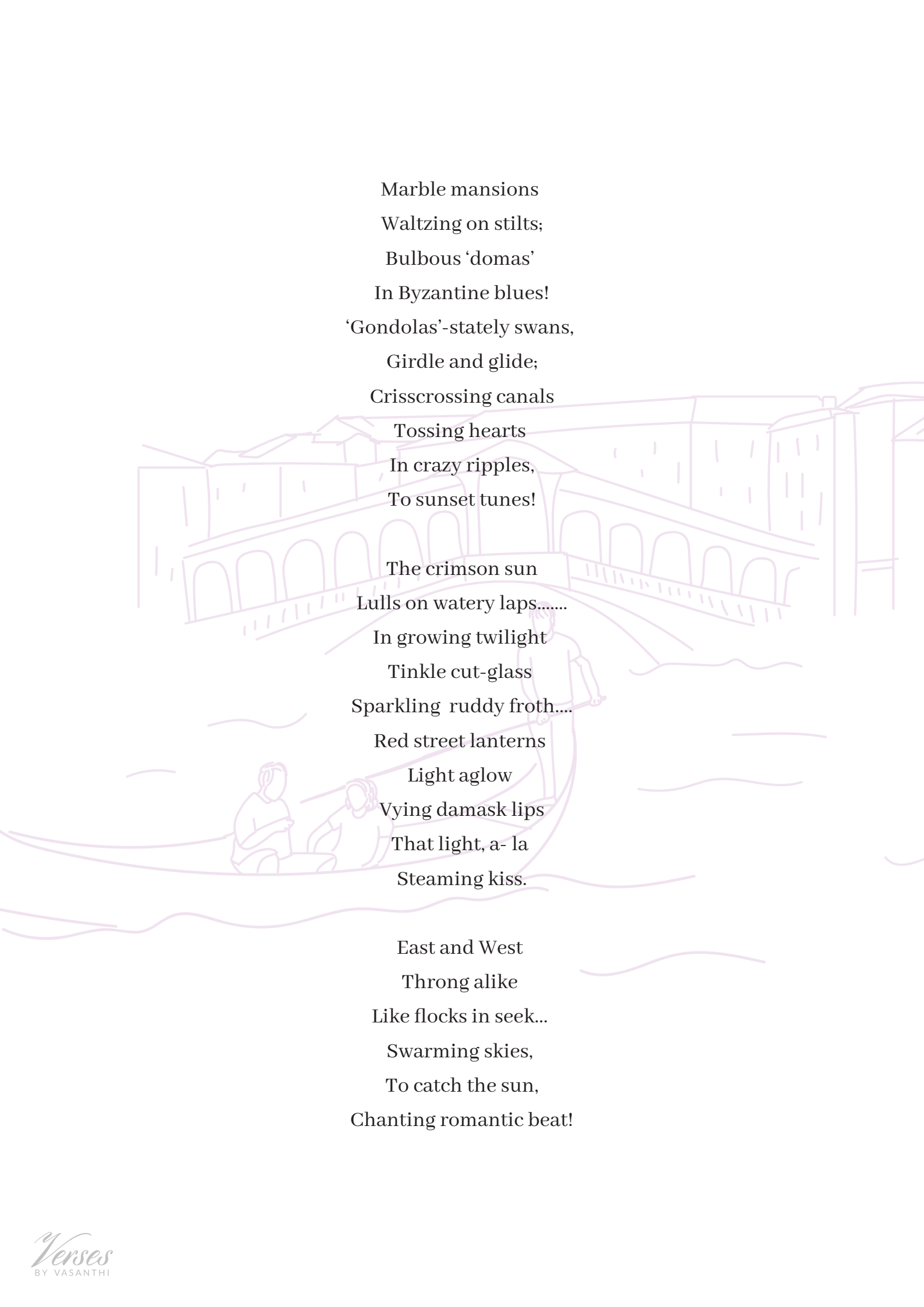
Venice

Vasanthi Vasudev

Venice, mystical nymph-
Venus like,
Gossamer clad,
Dances afloat
Misty horizons.

Pearly shells
Of sensuous sights
Gape in awe,
As 'life' throbs
In silvery veins!





Marble mansions
Waltzing on stilts;
Bulbous 'domas'
In Byzantine blues!
'Gondolas'-stately swans,
Girdle and glide;
Crisscrossing canals
Tossing hearts
In crazy ripples,
To sunset tunes!
The crimson sun
Lulls on watery laps.....
In growing twilight
Tinkle cut-glass
Sparkling ruddy froth....
Red street lanterns
Light aglow
Vying damask lips
That light, a- la
Steaming kiss.

East and West
Throng alike
Like flocks in seek...
Swarming skies,
To catch the sun,
Chanting romantic beat!

As priceless tapestries,
Hugging stony walls,
Tall and time tested...
Freeze in wisdom
As old as the seas,
Raw promises-, honey sweet,
Mock victory smiles

At Tomorrows,
Pre- disposed!

And heady youth,
Whispering vows
Of unending love
To galloping breath
And soaring pulse,
Rushes and swings
Into velvety arms
Of Venetian Magic
Alluring and irresistible....

Ever-more!

Once more!

Verses
BY VASANTHI