



POETRY: QUDSI RIZVI

The Recluse

I have gone 'cold'
with withering emotions and frail soul
I'm a 'hermit' and a 'recluse',
a mystic river flowing unaware....
let me be empty
of all trepidations
before meeting the
Beloved...
Ah! the pain here
dark and deep
in the recesses of soul
I can't fathom....
let me be empty
for my Beloved!

The Wretched of the Earth

“Ah, the poverty
But how long?
I will dig hard
Day and night; I
Have patience and
Will to live. I know
This earth will save
Me from poverty; I am
From this earth.” I
Listened all this and came
Back to my home. Next
Morning came the news:
One from the earth
Had become earth.....!!!
While these wretched
Of the earth die
Some continue inventing
Poverty, some are busy
Making ‘wants’ and
Manufacturing ‘lies’.
But a poor old thing
Comes from the earth
And becomes One
With it.....silently!!!

Being Invisible

I was invisible...

Why? He ne'er

Said hello

Or looked at me.

He was retiring today

From his old job

a psychiatrist he was

In a correctional centre.

I am invisible

Still... In this society

Of people breathing

Not oxygen but

Noxious isolation.

Fragmented visions

Myopic minds I get

Surrounded with

And remain I

Invisible to 'men'

Who 'bed' with women

Only to 'know' her...nay

Skim her and discard!

I remain invisible

For my 'body' is not

An open book

Nor it has given access

To 'men' to 'read' it.

I fear

not

their beings

I am

Invisible

And

Nobody.

Dr. Qudsi Rizvi is currently a Visiting Faculty in the Department of Humanities and Social Sciences at Motilal Nehru National Institute of Technology Allahabad. He has been actively engaged in teaching, evaluation and content development for more than eight years. His area of interest lies in English Literature (Feminism, Ecocriticism, Psychoanalysis, Gender studies), Philosophy, English Language (Grammar, Language Lab, Soft Skills) and Human Values & Professional Ethics. He has been active in poetry/prose writing and has published his works in various international journals.

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