

From Gorging Idols

Approach.

Take a walk to my watchful window
and lookout to these great *ghats*,
perceiving the bamboo-made floats
suspended on the phantasm expanse.

Bare the stock-still moment
obscured in the wayward dew
of grizzled men perched at
the cusp of crescent moons.

Be wary of the glistening painting
that appears to be seen;
such a blinding vision accurses
the porpoises of this Mother runnel.

Bathe in the atrophy of such
conditioned currents,
a many blessings from gorging Idols
attired in golden, wet swimsuits.

Make your unavailing obeisances
to the framework with a pane
till *Krishna's* eagre-hand
is all but receded and promises to remain.

Submerge into the fathorage
of a teary void, fin-stroking
through breaths of bygone lives,
caught in dropping bubbles.

Welcome the final, moist, *ghat* kiss
from your lulling mistress, the riverbed,
to unite with the village of eyes,
corpus delicti grounded in the *Ganga*.

Athirst Tongues

A soiled consciousness heralds
in the honeyed visions of first blush,
as the cinders of past footmarks
swallow the winding, mud-cracked pathways
- ash by ash.

The smoldering, arrested winds
waft the sweetness of saffron shards,
billowing the nectar of ambered-desires
across and aside the timeworn *Ganges*
- swell by swell.

The savoured, buttermilk farewells
tote the pasts of humans' soured fruit,
along the athirst tongues
of the inexhaustible *ghats*
- drop by drop.

This ground-cloud filled morn
is the *Prasadam* of unquenched devotion,
to the all breathing deities of *The Fabulous East*,
echoing thousands of flames
of an unsnuffed light
- chant by chant.

Unfed Skies

The faded sketches of pawmarks in the mire,
bear witness to the wanderings
of a badland of reincarnated souls,
foraging betwixt the ancestral pillars
of consciousness.

In the ground-cloud smog,
the resonance of displaced conceptions
bequeathed to the ravenous jackals,
burrowing into the coatings of hides,
enkindling the exhales of the thousands
of unanswered, lamented cries.

Such a melody comprised from flesh and bone,
inherently sung to the vastness
of illuminated and unfed skies,
pacifying the appetites of a pride
of fruitless idols.

Howl on. Howl on.

In the Blackness of the Nighttide

The pattern pieces of bark and umbrage,
sketched alongside the mileages,
bellow the endurance of Revelation
under the blankets of obscurity,
with which, these barefoot dwellers
bandage and encase their emaciated frames.

The trudging of life worn footmarks,
traversed through the murkiness of sight,
echoes a wordless lamentation
to the ever-vigilant eyes of the blind.

Undulate, from side to side, in a ceaseless wind-
a dim of unrealized shadows
in the blackness of the nighttide.

Sanguine Gardens

I stand, inanimate, on the byroad
with vulture eyes fixed on a wafting cinder,
an enkindled *Odissi* coryphée, upstaging
the aeronautics of the *Coppersmith barbets*.

The symphonic wails of the *sabai grass*,
enameled in avarice-shades of ruby-essence,
oxidize a weave of sanguine gardens,
anachronous to the clapperclaw of *Nrsimhadeva*.

I am exsiccated savouring the breaths
with a thirst disposition rooted in emerging embers,
a fricassee of *Krishna's prasadam*, out casting
the castle crawlways of the *Madras treeshrews*.

The melodious weeps of withering Jasmine
reverberate in mute, charcoal temples of decorum
smoldering an arras abaft *Sanskrit* actors,
unveiling the savage quackery amongst These herbivores.

I collapse, motionless, on the byroad.

Glossary

Coppersmith barbets- a crimson-breasted barbet.

Ganga- the most sacred river in India.

Ganges- *Ganga*, the most sacred river in India.

Ghats- a bank of the river, a port, a place at the edge of the river where Hindus cremate their dead.

Krishna- an important god in Hinduism, with a blue complexion who symbolizes the essence of love.

Madras treeshrews- a species of treeshrews endemic to India.

Nrsimhadeva- Narasimha, a part man and part lion form of Krishna or Vishnu.

Odissi- a devotional form of classical dance originated in Odisha, India.

Prasadam- sanctified food.

Sabai grass- a perennial grass that grows south of the Himalayas.

Sanskrit- liturgical language of Hinduism, lingua franca of ancient India.

The Fabulous East- the Indian subcontinent.