HARMONY

POEMS BY ZEENAT IQBAL HAKIMJEE

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<u>PREFACE</u>

I was in perfect harmony with nature when I wrote these poems. Autumn a season with falling leaves and bare trees is considered by most as gloomy, but oddly enough it inspired me to put pen to paper to make this humble effort of writing these poems.

This is my first attempt at writing poetry and probably leaves a lot to be desired but encouragement is what is required.

I sincerely hope that you would enjoy reading these poems as I have writing them.

ZEENAT IQBAL HAKIMJEE

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GARDEN OF EDEN

My spirit soars up to the sky, As I on the lush green carpet lie.

Ecstasy envelopes my always ...melancholy heart, As, sudden wind blown ripples, In the pond start. As the winter suns, warm rays, Caress my being I do sway

Frolicking and frisking, from here to there, Like a lamb, the desire, I wish to bear.

May you bloom forever, my Garden of Eden, Make my thoughts soar upto, The Seventh Heaven.

NO MORE TEARS

As you leave for greener pastures, Tears flown down the cheeks at your departure.

The migrating bird flutters its wings, Over for it, is the season to sing.

The Bentley turns round the corner Disappears from sight, now and forever.

I shall miss your nudge and touch, For our friendship others could vouch.

But since the 'Sea of Gold' is at a distance, Leave for it right now, this instance.

WHEATHER GENUINE CAUSE OF ANGER?

Enraged I stroll towards The counter, To involve myself in A brutal encounter; The salesman gave me rupees Five less, A gruesome mistake that He should confess, Was the well aware Of it, Or did the mistakingly Di it, Remains to be seen Or is it My frustration built in.

POSSESSION

I own you, your every movement is mine To do as I please

Why did you do this why did you do that Raise your voice, or your eyelid bat

Its our of the question I won't let you out of my sight You belong to me only to me, you are my birth right

Just the other day your momentary absence felt like multitude Was it the toilet or were you astray,

I am suspicious, you I possess. Do not leave me, I shall feel the betray,

Your look and smile elsewhere, your touch Are all for me, me only,

From others, to be kept at bay Do not ever make a start with darling, for another,

It will make the other want to come hither I feel bold and beautiful in your presence

But am at a loss in your absence I own, you, you I possess,

THE BANANA

So I am meant to be fed to the monkey, Wail till you have an encounter with my peel,

Without the night, stars you shall see, For still life I join hands with friend apple,

Different shapes of me decorate a cocktail I lie on the table as the knife slices me open,

An incision in my centre, split into pieces, My seed in you sprout a plant

The likes of which you have to see to believe, They should call you sprout a plant

I make 'shakes' about the reference What you treasure to eat,

Out of which you should not make mincemeat

LEARN FROM YOUR MISTAKES

While jogging I tripped over lace, Next time tied my shoes with grace,

I sang out of tune at the dinner, Practice, well almost made me a crooner,

I fell when somebody pulled the chair away Brushed my right hand, to my Utter dismay,

It was my turn, I said Tit for tat,

And hurt to my content, The guilty brat,

In the run with, Trail and error

I have grown to be A lot wiser.

SACRIFICE

It seemed like my paradise was there to stay, Everything I always wanted I possessed,

To hold to cherish till, I was dead The envy of the crowd, I swayed to the rhythm

My heart heat and my breath hummed, We were five in all, two boys and a girl,

The mild summer and a picnic by the beach Snowflakes on the mountains not our of reach

On holiday or at work Happiness and contentment always at my doorstep,

Suddenly fate started changing for worse, The truth came home, not an act to rehearse,

He had to leave my side for greener pastures, The children went along, all for one, one for all,

I was left all alone, to wipe my tears, One my one they left me for a motionless floor,

I was all alone, all alone.

COMPANIONSHIP

Hold my hand, take me to he land, Where name nor brand,

Will come in between true friends, Shall go to their house,

Feeling like a louse, Smiles, warmth, mirth and cheer, Encompass me from all sides...

Take me away from my swing of mood, Feel I well and good.

True friendship is hard to find, With materialism in mind.

Wherever you are, come and touch me, For mi am abound with sincerity,

A friend I receive... To avoid the mire....

Always be there. Give meaning to my blank stare.

ROMANCE

I love you, my dearest, my cherub, The sunset and sunrise are for me a spectacle & to behold

Because of your warmth I do not feel the cold Of the cloudy, dark winter nights,

Logs to burn I need not, nor do indeed the light. Tomorrow is always a day to look forward to.

In your company life is a bundle of joy. A tear rolls down my cheek, and shines and sparkles

It beautifies my skin and gives it a certain glow In your adulation it had to flow.

I captured to kitten through your eyes, And whispered a lullaby by your sound

Togetherness should last and last. I am in love, I am in love.

GUILT COMPLEX

Enclosed in a shell like a tortoise, Keeping away from the lively movements & noise,

My own I fail to recognize, Do not shake hands with me please

I am no more, no more at ease, I suffer from a guilt complex,

Was I the one to destroy a friendship Or lose my temper in a relationship.

The other day I threw some litter on the road, Turned a deaf ear to the call for prayer,

I suffer from a guilt complex I am amazed at my faults.

Have I them or have I not? Is it just the state of my mind

Or has somebody without cause have me to remind Of a non-existent situation,

Will I ever surface, 1 suffer from a Guilt Complex.

TILL DEATH DO US IN

Last night I woke up from a dream, To realise, that it was not what it seemed,

My companion for my relaxed hours, Was wet through and through...

No I had not done it... It was the thunderstorm that possessed it:

I totalled the time, That flew past the chime,

That rung from my alarm, To raise me with charm

Out indeed I shall pay no heed The mattress and I look alike

Bulging from the sides-out, vital statistics 40,40,40

ENCOUNTER

On my travels such was my plight, Did Gulliver or Passepartout with all their might,

Slip in a puddle in broad daylight Were they bait, to such a trait,

In their Sunday best waiting for a suitor Who would pronounce romance truer

The mishap with the hair That turned bald and bare...

Thinking of the worlds miseries... Had there been no fisheries

No salmon and no trout To bring about a prick in the mouth;

With the writing to bleed Promising a bond in a deed.

HEAVEN IS AT HER FEET

From the moment a child opens its eyes. To the world and its ties:

She nurtures it like a steadfast rock, Right from pant to frock.

"And I shall guide you, On the path that I walked on,

Before you came along. In sickness and in health,

In poverty and in wealth, Whenever I needed company,

You gave the note to the harmony. Sit tight little one..."

INNOCENCE

As the child looked with his eyes wide open, I thought, on innocence I would write a poem;

Unaware of the sins committed by society. Oblivious of death and calamity:

Playing with a toy gun in the hand, As if the real one has not harmed the land;

Exist, does a lie, denied, The solemn truth will always preside;

Early in the morning shall I arise... To greet with a surprise;

The coin planted in my garden Shall hurst into a tree?

With the money, chocolates I shall buy And build a house, Hansel Gretel style

RESORT TO QUILT

The dark cold winter night, Bring a shudder and a chill to the might

The star at a distance so high. Part oblivious, because of the cloud in the sky,

The severe, pouring December rain, From which even the umbrella covered, refrain.

I love to stay indoors, And protect myself from the downpour.

I snuggle up warm and cozy in my eider-down quilt,

Watching television, sipping coffee, Plunged on my bed, with my pillow at a slight tilt

LIFE IS SACRED

In the Garden, the blooming rose. Tucked in the vase, in a pose.

The sweet fragrance, spread in the air, Lending grace to an otherwise, room bizarre.

The rich red velvet of the petals. The crowning glory of the green sepals.

The beauty of this natural piece, Has at last now, withered and died;

Reminds one all the time, Life should be lived to the brim,

In case this virtue is denied.

MY WEAKNESS IS MY STRENGTH

If there can be appeal In the scar on that face,

I will take my weakness With a lot of grace,

If every tumble gives you a chance To rise erect with a new stance,

When the going gets tough The tough get going

Yesterday, I fell to-Get up again and start moving.

In the classroom the young boy From his neighbour snatched the toy.

The truck rammed into the car With all its might,

Killed the occupants and threw Them out a sight,

The sky roared with thunder Scared stiff as they went down under.

My weakness shall he my strength, May I never misuse it

Even for one moment. The meek shall inherit the earth.

CHILDREN OF A LESSER GOD

Walking about in torn and tattered clothes, Looking messy with a running nose.

Crippled, unable to walk properly, The arrogant man, looks at him disdainfully.

The other day the car almost ran her down, As she leaped forward, begging For an aim,

Hand outstretched, unable to see, In the sun, wearing dark glasses, Makes him look shady.

For a cheap rate, They are bought, Are they, Children of a Lesser God?

ALL THAT GLITTERS IS GOLD

The morning sun shines through the window, Making the face beam and glow.

I suddenly feel the urge, to rise and shine.

My feelings take a turn, towards The lofty and divine,

As I escape the barricade of my bed, The wasted, whiled hours I now dread.

The sun has injected into me a Potion, Which makes me want to drive into motion.

The golden globe warms the earth, Returns the gaiety and the mirth.

BEYOND THE GRASP

Take your outstretched hand, See dreams of the promised land.

Butterflies in different colours. Dive and leap and soar,

Honey and nectar on the doorstep, Would one find such a place on the map.

Where no misery, no bitterness, no sorrow Looking forward always to a better morrow.

This is what Utopia is all about, Neither begged, borrowed nor bought

DEATH UNKNOWN

After death the era seems Bleak and dreary,

Woven around it an aura of mystery. Will I have to repent for my sins,

Or will I be classed divine. All questions answered at the mercy of time-

Will I be in Gods domain. Or will me be, Satan slain,

If I knew distinctly I would Have an upper hand.

God rules supremely over the Law of the land.

I am afraid of the outcome of death Will it or will it not be as I suggest

LIFES UPS AND DOWNS

As the mountaineer up the mountain ascends, Traversing the path that he will have to descend.

At the sight, an ordinary man Would have shuddered.

Up hills and pitfalls, All a part of life. Whether it is easy going or only strife.

Sometimes an obstacle comes in the way, Sometimes it is smooth going all the way,

Lifes ups and downs add to its totality, Lending to it an air of immortality.

LIVE AND LET LIVE

You took her out to the Cosy restaurant for dinner,

I was vociferous in-my appeal, For you as sinner.

Social taboos should never erect A wall between us,

Otherwise our relationship Will take a turn for the disastrous,

My catty instincts Were aroused by your-

Blast of voice If only I could have told myself

Never mind, its his choice. The norm of the day is

Follow a strict diet A pound here or there will not

A tremendous impact Make on the weight

Live and let live, Take and learn to give.

BUZZ OFF TELEPHONE

Be hold and me apprise Of the current inflation and rise

In atta prices and the general And of course dowries too

Acquaint you I shall with the So called water and loo

Escapism with my telephone From the hullabaloo

Hi, Hullo, how do you do? Hadn't we just met

Before an hour or two Serves me right

If it was hate at first sight, Out a sight, sorry upright, my telephone

Bill read Not in units, tens but in hundreds

INNOCENCE

Huddled close by, yet far from the fire blazing. Watching the cinders creating in the light, the night,

Hush, hush in subdued tones they sat whispering, The vegetation surrounding them swaying, to and fro in the door,

The draft humming and wheezing through the cracks, In the corner, the phone as silent as a graveyard,

The settee and settlers comfortable in its warn embrace,

Victorian paintings in the background, depicting grace,

The image of romance portrayed, Tring, tring, the bell of the telephone sounds,

The wife speaks to her husband's company, Suspicions aroused, seething with rage and jealously,

She bangs the phone and envisages the courts, Breaking the bond of trust that friendship is all about,

Between man and woman so clean and so pure, Yet so distant and aloof to the short sighted.

TO EACH HIS OWN

May I have enough tolerance, Not to take offence; At whatever character trait The other may portray: If he does not possess....

....A sense of humour Or enjoys spreading Every once in a while.... A rumour. Enjoys coming late, Or does not felicitate. Why does that foul my mood? When I sometimes am up to no good. Do I not see reason, In the coming season; What harm can A living, loving soul, Do to my whole? If God has pronounced The Day of Judgement, To account for every one's temperament, Who am I to be displeased, When somehody does that or this.

CONFESSIONS OF A TERRORIST

Possessed by the devil, I strode out to do evil.

With enmity written large on my face, Somebody has to be dad in deaths embrace.

Just yesterday a child became an orphan, And a couple were worried by the ransoms burden.

The fetters of depression behold the city, Where everyday criminals like me enter captivity.

Karachi, Karachi of yore Shall hot surface will not surface

Whilst I trigger my double barrel bore.

JOY AND SORROW

The begum dashes by in -- Her flashing car,

To meet a companion at - A destination afar.

At a meeting point In a parlour,

Five boys voraciously In a corner ice Cream devour,

The silk saris and golden bangles Glittering in the light,

The high heels and the leather purses Presenting a sight;

The beggar in his torn and tattered assemblage,

Spreads out his palm And asks for patronage.

MOMENTS OF BLISS

The mild rays filtering Through the tree;

The winter sun beaming In glee,

The lush green grass Beneath me,

Forming a carpet softly; The birds chirping in the trees,

The insects frolicking from here to there The morning dew drops thinning in the warm air;

An apple in my hand I keep the doctor away;

What more can one ask for I to myself say.

I FELT CHEATED

She was single and lonely, All of her belonged to me;

At the corner of the building Looking like a bride,

I spotted her needing Help at her side

Chivalrously I opted To do the needful,

She seemed thoroughly pleased And blissful:

Then suddenly a car stopped by her, With door flung open.

A man sat inside. With wide open arms which did her beckon.

Alas; To my dismay, i was left alone, Near me no more now, but an illusion.

WHAT'S COOKING

la Ra Rum go the prancing, dancing, Flames of the stove,

Amused by this scenario, is the meat Being cooked above.

The groin softens to the warmth of the fire, With the cabbage and potato.

It forms an empire. The unveiling of the platter,

Reveals, fit for a king, matter. Copied from television this recipe

Is a treat, When near and dear ones, Altogether do meet.

COURTSHIP BETWEEN THE CAT AND THE CROW

My backyard is livened up By the cat and the crow.

From a distance they for each other A liking show.

Caw Caw, Meow Meow they hark & howl. A din enough, to disturb the neighbouring fowl

Both of them perched on the dustbin. Turn by turn.

Waiting for a morsel, from the kitchen to return. Up goes the left over meat, in the air,

What ensues would ashame 'The battle for the chair

BE PUSHY, FRIEND. WHEN REQUIRED

In the line of bill payers at the bank, As the fairer sex,

If sick don't just be blank "Ladies first", "excuse me11, "before you please"

For deals with unpaid bills, Ask for goods back, threat if you will,

Repeat the request for a job. You may make it from the mob,

Instead of standing, share the seat on the bus Isn1t it much better than making a fuss,

Whatever you do during tug-o-war, do not push the rope Or you'll be the laughing stock amidst cries of, "What a dope", Sometimes an obstacle comes in the way, Sometimes it is smooth going all the way,

Lifes ups and downs add to its totality, Lending to it an air of immortality.

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