

Dr O. P. Arora

The Night

I watch the night
every night
dark or moonlit
it is starry quiet...

I sit by the night
watch it go
bit by bit...
No hurry, leisurely pace
like a philosopher
knowing the inevitable...

The night is calm, standstill
filling you with spiritual melody
unlike the day's fret and fury
mind's murderous assaults
ambition's disastrous pacts

man on the material conquests...

The night consoles the tired nerves

relief to the tormented souls

all your furious ventures

your spurious aches

come to nought

into the dark entirely lost...

You wake up into Cosmic light

no blight, no fright, eternal delight...

The Other Way

He stole my wallet...

Call the police
at the next station
my wife insisted...

He had helped me a lot
lifted my luggage
given me medicine
brought me water bottle
risking missing his train...
Gave me the lower berth
put his own blanket on me...
So nice, so courteous
even my own wouldn't sacrifice their sleep....
He took only a fraction
of what I charitably give to them
he took care of me
while they only shout at me...
He deserved much more
than what he took...

Oh, stealing!

A crime!

Who is not stealing here?

We are all criminals here...

Maybe, he really needed it...

When the Heart is Purged

After a long, long drought
it rained and poured
turned all the lanes into Venice...
They all panicked, got distraught.

But I enjoyed the downpour
opened up to the skies for more
I was quenched
I was drenched...

My frail body danced and flowered
every cell, sleeping in hell, tinkled
dip by dip, it seeped into my soul
romance of the divine, I became whole...

It lashed against my heart
hatred and anger, imbedded, inert
I felt free, rid of the rite
rolled in joy, ecstasy infinite...



Dr O. P. Arora is a renowned poet, novelist and short story writer. Seven volumes of his poems have endeared him to the readers and critics alike. His love for Nature, his penetrating social insight and his philosophical profundity lend a unique charm to his writings. His poems have been published in almost all the

leading literary journals and have been generously included in most of the prominent anthologies. His three novels and a collection of his short stories have been highly appreciated as the true portrayal of contemporary India.

He has an excellent academic record culminating in his Doctorate in English Literature from Panjab University, Chandigarh. He has taught in Delhi University for nearly four decades.

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