

*SHADOW OF PAST*

By Supriya Mandal

Fatigued, frustrated, lonely, depressed was my past  
That still haunts me even in places so crowded and busy  
Despite my very wish to wipe out it like dust.

To walk on the rough path of life towards future,  
Cannot escape from the bleak days of past,  
Though present is always present to cure and nurture.

With the passed dreadful happenings I am yet clouded,  
And no ray of hope peeps in my hurt mind;  
I fear to dream, to love, to rely, and to step ahead.

Past casts a dark veil of shadow on me  
When I try to set out on an adventure,  
Talk to a stranger, and find a land so homely.

But a few memorable memories glimmer in one corner of heart;  
These ingredients awake my invisible inner strength,  
And invigorate me to start spontaneously a bright new start.

**Bio**

**Supriya Mandal** passed graduation with hon. in English from University of Kalyani, Kalyani, West Bengal, M.A. in English from Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi, U.P., and B.Ed. from Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi, U.P. She was a Guest Lecturer of English at Nagar College, Nagar, Murshidabad, West Bengal, and at present is an Assistant Teacher at B.P. School (under W.B. Govt.), Murshidabad, West Bengal. She loves writing, recitation, singing and dramatic performance.

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