

***A NIGHT'S CALL***

**By Narinder Bhangu**

The night  
calls her for sleep  
whatever way,  
in a hut of dried ,  
twigs and leaves collected,  
randomly from the woods nearby.  
tiring body movements,  
the mechanics of mind,  
emotional shakes,  
blushing faces,  
the begging hands,  
never plaintive,  
quite satisfied with  
the fractional mercy  
of well attired,  
who drives a car to  
a mammoth  
glass house,  
where in  
dancing continues  
and a game of cockles  
till late,  
in disguise  
to sensual tunes,

on a cosy bed  
in a bedroom  
festooned  
with select tapestry,  
readying  
for next day's rat race,  
away  
unknown to  
the life  
in that hut of twigs  
where  
the meagre alms conceal  
body aches  
vulgar and abusive words  
the sunken bellies  
and lean skeleton  
of a father  
guarding the chastity  
of a daughter  
resting on a  
loose stringed charpoy  
yet, the next day  
calls her to leave  
that hut of twigs..

(Chorpoy is four wooden post bed woven with raw strings, and these strings become loose with time )

***I AM NOT KIDDING***

When the stars set,  
Somewhere far away  
Behind the high mountain,

The Sun engulfed  
The coolness of the night,  
Across the river and the wild terrain.

The yellow brightness,  
Woke the world up,  
To pick the fights again.  
Yet, the dew drops that shone  
On leafy, green grass,  
Washed the dirty stain.

The kids of all races,  
Played then hand in hand  
And, I laughed without refrain.

***A SOLDIER'S WISH UNACCOMPLISHED***

Somewhere, far away,  
It lightened,  
Thundered very dreadfully,  
As a soldier laid down his life  
On the death bed,  
Like a bird dropped mid-way,

From the sky, and writhed,  
While dying.  
His sinew desiccated  
And blood turned  
azure, with herbicides  
Harmful insecticides,  
Poisonous food,  
The contaminated water,  
That snatched his redness.  
And his wish of dying,  
In the battle field,  
Seemed like a false dream.

**Bio**

**Narinder Bhangu** is the Former lecturer (English) and presently based in Canada as health professional. He is the motivational speaker, Resource person and career counselor. He conducts seminars on personality development, communication and soft skills.

