

Winter afternoon

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I sit atop a hill rising idyllic
in the centre of the town
sprawling all around the base.
The departing Sun
tans the Eastern horizon copper.
Birds have fed
and sit aimlessly preening,
and flit around their 'roosting' trees:
their lazy chirping
raises a complaint to the Sun
for his slow descent down into a deeper west.

Stray cows and calves
have gone on grazing since morning,
and are still nibbling uncontended
at leaves and patches of leftover grass:
their noisy grazing
annoys the contented birds
who stop preening and flitting about
to stare at greedy cows and calves
feeding their animal hunger.

The Storm

Breeze is mild and soft
and moves shyly caressing leaves,
tall grass, trees:
flowers and plants and branches
sway back and forth
in a game of dances.

Wind comes from another direction
and pushes the breeze away:
flowers and plants and branches
lean that way
as if to follow the loving breeze
to her abode over and beyond.

Storm comes howling from afar
and chases the wind out.
A decadent miscellany
of dried leaves and peels, of bits of paper, of dust
leaps drunkenly zigzag:
flowers and plants and branches
shake mad
as if to come loose from stems and roots and trunks
and run away to temperate plains.

Bio:

Dr. Prakash Joshi is an Assistant Professor at the Department of English, School of Languages, Dr. Harisingh Gour Central University, Saugor (Sagar), Madhya Pradesh. Before coming to Saugor, Dr. Joshi taught as an Associate Professor at the Department of English & Modern European Languages at Banasthali Vidyapith in Rajasthan. He studied at the University of Rajasthan, Jaipur, and CIEFL, Hyderabad.

In 2012, Dr. Joshi taught as a Fulbright Visiting Lecturer at the City University of New York, USA. In the course of his Lectureship, he taught Modern Indian Drama at the Department of Comparative Literature at Queens College, CUNY, and produced and directed Indian plays in collaboration with the Theater and Drama Department of the college.

Dr. Joshi is more of an academic writer, and sometimes makes creative forays into poetry and short story writing.