

HOMECOMING

Ravi Veerelli

Translated by: Elanaaga

After all the sounds have
curled in their respective nests
I fill my corporeal *kamandalam**
with some water of quietude
and walk behind the tiny words planted by you
echoing the old *mantra* you taught me

In the path where your footprints disappeared
I keep moving till I become invisible to myself
willing even to trail behind the track of your scent

Not due to dislike for the world
Nor with a distaste for sounds
No wish to break the distances either
Neither for discovering you even

Then what for is it?
To see your tiny words turn into sunflowers
To view your fragrance become fireflies
To witness your footprints shimmering
as moonlight frills to the *sari* of the path...
All while I'm returning

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Yes

I go away from myself

Only to return

*Kamandalam: A small pitcher held in hand by ascetics. It is believed to contain water having magical power.

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Bio:

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Published 12 books (11 in Telugu and 1 in English) so far of which 7 belong to the genre of poetry. Five of the books are translations (4 from English to Telugu and 1 from Telugu to English). Hundreds of poems written originally in Telugu and many translated from Telugu to English were published in various magazines/books.