

BEAUTIFUL PEOPLE

By Nalini Priyadarshni

The most beautiful people are those who can dip their fingers in
Their sadness to create brilliance so heart shattering that
You cry unabashed for your own heartaches buried deep
Until the last tear has flown and you are ready to heal
Opening your heart to new loves and light
Then they turn around and flood your life with a love
So wonderful that you wonder if it is real...
If they are real

The most beautiful people to be around are those who
tell you to live and love always, in all ways and
be exactly whatever and whoever you want to at any point of time.
They peer into your eyes and darkest nooks of your heart
light up and you discover the beauty you didn't know you possess
mirrored in their eyes. For once you know you are beautiful too.

So rare are these beautiful people that when you find one
hold them close and cherish them every moment they are there.
They cannot be owned or possessed. Their presence is a gift.
When they hold your hand, you know you won't be same again
and the world is a better place for your meeting.

HOMING

Drawn towards your flame
I keep returning to your body
To blow on your embers
And lose my wings
To their white heat

In moments of lucidity
Between this business of
Living and dying
I untangle the shadows
We step into, now and then.

Stripped off the flesh we had
Rubbed with sandalwood oil
And washed in rose water
Conundrum of time and distance
Ceases to play on our minds

Riding on widening ripples, we
Let ourselves be blown away
And find our way back
To the home we had never left
The home we had never left

WHERE WERE YOU?

I almost left it unsaid, again
The unthinkable, the unspeakable
Blasphemous it sounds to my own ears
some questions can't be throttled
Even though there are no answers
Just a long journey
Paved with saline silence

"Where were you all my life?"

Bio:

NaliniPriyadarshni is a poet, writer, editor and amateur photographer. Her work has appeared at numerous magazines and international anthologies including Up the Staircase Weekly, eFiction India, Mad Swirl, Camel Saloon, Dukool, Tanka Undertow, Learning & Creativity, Locution Mag and Earl of Plaid. Her forthcoming publications include Inflight Magazine and Sacred Women in the Anti-violence movement Anthology. She lives in, India with her husband and two feisty kids.