

UNFILLED POT AND OTHER POEM

Origin (Telugu): Ravi Veerelli

Translated by: Elanaaga

We may pour any number of
scenes into the urn of an eye.
Yet, it doesn't retain any
except some waiting glances.

Seasons tantalise, melt,
replenish void's emptiness
like the summer which, wearing a bikini,
ogles and vanishes into winter waves
passing over hot sand dunes.

The fall keeps spreading colours to carve out
poems from lonely moments slipped from hand,
on the ever-unfilled canvas of time.

Akin to poesy,
both the eye and time
are pots not filled fully

IN SUBJECTION TO NIGHT

Nights merge with noons briefly,
only to part from each other soon.

Solitary days slip and roll one by one.
During this,
the few moments shared by us too
have liquefied and dropped
through the gaps between eye-lids long ago.

What difficulty does the darkness face?
Sharpening its edges, it saws many a heart.
Somehow,
night throws loners into subjection.

Lo,
gluing my glances to walls of darkness,
drawing up time and pouring it on night's loin,
turning each bead of reminiscence rosary with fingertips,
carrying winter fog and waiting for dawn like a bamboo grove
I spend my nights here
this way, with no companion.

My nights are not yours;
nor your noons mine.

Better, it would have been,
if the broken night got united.

Bio of Ravi Veerelli

Born on June 16, 1968 in a small village Amudalapalli, Karimnagar district, Telangana state of India, he is a Telugu poet, editor and publisher. He graduated in Electronics Engineering and is currently working for TMEIC as programme manager in Virginia, USA. Ravi has published two anthologies of poetry so far. He has been the editor of a critically acclaimed Telugu monthly web magazine, *Vaakili* since 2012.

Bio of Elanaaga

(Actual name: Dr Surendra Nagaraju)

Dr. Surendra was born in Elgandal village of Karimnagar District, Telangana State in 1953. A doctor (Paediatrician) by profession, Elanaaga is also one of the main poet- translators of Telugu literature. He penned 20 books so far. Ten of them belong to poetry while the rest belong to other genres. Ten works were originally written in Telugu while the other 10 are translations from English to Telugu and vice –versa. His books include those of metrical poetry, experimental poetry, translations etc. Besides translating Somerset Maugham’s The Alien Corn into Telugu, he rendered Latin American Stories, African stories, Somerset Maugham’s other stories and stories of various other languages as well and published them as books. He has also translated a couple of Telugu books into English. Several hundreds of his poems, essays, stories, book reviews etc. belonging to different genres of Telugu and English were published in various magazines in the last 45 years.