

LIMERICK

Aminur Rahman

Translated by Nandita Bhattacharya

When necessity surrenders to love,
Light begins to focus on its stage at exactly the right moment,
Red and blue bulbs lighting up one after the other.

There is silence for a while;
The wooden floor suddenly trembles
With the loud bluster of many people,
The incident taking place in a flash.

Scenes change, one after another,
Life's most difficult moments hidden
Beneath the brightest of lights,
And words scribbled on the slate of suffering
Remain on the reverse page of life.

PEERLESS

Aminur Rahman

Translated by Nandita Bhattacharya

I am tearing up pages, one after another,
Just to draw the expression of your eyes.
Do you understand how I am feeling,
Or how I am throughout the day?
I will simply die if it was all a dream.
From day to day, night to night,
You are incomparable,
Like a blue lotus,
 Luminous,
 Heartless,
Peerless! Peerless! Peerless!

A TALE OF A HAPPY MAN

Aminur Rahman

Translated by Nandita Bhattacharya

Supposing you have a house, a car,
And a beautiful woman too.
You have a good job, and get a fat monthly salary;
Your family is like those families shown in advertisements.

You go on riverside outings for your holidays,
And enjoy spending your evenings sitting in the garden of your home.
You sleep well at night, and have a personal library
Where you spend many happy hours whenever you feel like it.

All your friends love you, and even their beautiful wives appreciate you.
You are a devoted husband and father.
You don't like wasting your time unnecessarily,
And are matchless even at parties.

You are the only son of your parents,
And stand to inherit everything from your rich father.
Although you don't enjoy gardening, you love flowers very much.
You fell in love, marrying the woman who was your beloved.

You never struggle for anything you want;
Everything surrenders before you like a tamed bird

Now imagine that you have nothing, that nothing is there for you,
Everything evaporating as quickly as a bottle of spirits without a cork.

Would you die then,
Or would you remain alive,
Wishing to live a long life?

I AM NO *KACH*

Aminur Rahman

Translated by Nandita Bhattacharya

These days I remember *Pallavita* almost every day.
Suddenly she appears in small breaks during my work.
Although I hide myself under many covers,
Still I spend too long with *Sankalita*
Standing on the bridge of Kanchpur on a moonlit night,
Meditating on *Jaita*.
The moon reflected on the water floats far away,
And I lose myself in a different world.
While reading the sonnets of the older poets
I want to write something on *Prianka*,
The ancient buildings of Dhaka
Suddenly turning me into a king.
Thereafter *Sharna*, the queen of gold,
Suranjana, seems to accompany me continuously,
Me alone, and nobody else.
Monika makes me think a lot;
The tears in her eyes
Make me restless.
I become foolish
When my eyes meet with those of *Madhavi*,
And I grow mad,
But I have been in search of only you,
My desired lady.
Oh, you are my *Debjani*!