

# Manifestation

Singing bird on the peak of a tree,  
Asked me to tell this tale to thee,  
Insanity maybe yet I understood he,  
Gave myself in since it was free.  
During my flights over the years,  
I have witnessed the happy cheers,  
As my departure nears and nears,  
I feel something and gives me queers.  
What happened to baffling cheery deers,  
Or to the singing friends filled my ears?  
Dancing beauties dying in sears,  
I lost myself... among the fears.  
Today I crossed the murky frontiers,  
I saw a dull world drowned in tears,  
No more the glorious world endears,  
Only a place... filled with spears.  
The screaming alarm is warning me,  
Hurry yourself up no need to plea,  
Gazed in the mirror for one last see,  
Oh why am I not as free as he?  
“What would be left of our tragedies if an insect were  
to present us his?” – Emile M. Cioran  
- Jayaruwan Gunathilaka

# Villain

He maintains status,  
With huge chains,  
On neck and hands,  
Ears pierced;  
Hair long and tinted.  
Wears a mask like face,  
With a rusty moustache and beard,  
Uses a lot of slang,  
In choked voices,  
To make others fear.  
Try to walk like,  
Paving way for a funeral,  
Wears like ladies blouses;  
And unfitted trousers,  
To show his body to all.  
He builds in imagination,  
As a boxer or karate trainer,  
Thinking to be scary;  
With his funny actions,  
To make timid others all.  
He mimes actors,  
Who does this for money,  
In real life it is very funny,  
To change characters false,  
But he doesn't realize any.  
He fails to understand,  
He is in mockery,  
None tends to get frightened;  
Even the bullied one.  
- M N KAIYOOM

# Through the eyes of an eagle...

White frozen mountain tops  
beautifully glisten  
Elegantly reflect glamour  
right up to the heaven  
Powdery crystal frost  
sprinkles in swift winds  
Blankets of snow cover  
summits of highlands  
Turquoise blue glacier water  
flows down icy peaks  
Slowly runs through  
mossy rocks into streams  
Reflections of landscapes  
visible on still waters  
Picturesque lakes located  
between high mountains  
Fragrant wild flowers bloom  
in green meadows  
Widely spread evergreen  
Pine woods on the hills  
A troop of foxes run together  
on thorny Fir needles  
Tiny little cubs hide inside  
underground burrows  
Symbol of power  
freely floats in distant air  
Spreads apart its broad  
wings of elegant flair  
Gently circles underneath  
a smooth cumulus cloud  
King of sky majestically  
lands on grassy ground...  
- Hemakumar Nanayakkara

# An adult learner's thoughts.....

The writings of the learned,  
And their academic talks,  
Convey the value of....,  
Learning, till death,  
The need to update,  
Knowledge and skills,  
To fill the demands  
Of the present day.  
We, as followers,  
In discussion halls  
Deliver talks  
On such academic issues  
And our learners  
Fill their books,  
With those views,  
As passive listeners.  
Thus, to fulfil the needs  
Of social demands  
Or social prestige,  
When we travel,  
From one corner to other,  
With tired faces,  
And sleepy eyes,  
To fill our minds,  
With learned talks,  
During weekends,  
The thoughts of the helpless,  
Young and old,  
Who waits at home,  
Roam in our minds,  
And moves here and there  
As moving shadows,  
Over the pages,  
When we write.  
When returning home,  
The gentle breeze,  
Blowing over the trees,  
With beautiful flowers,  
The golden sun,  
In the vast blue sky,  
The soft beams of moon,  
Gradually peep through,  
The floating clouds,  
Over the waves of,  
The lake underneath,  
Show the value of  
Nature, beautiful,  
And the sigh comes within,  
Says, “No time.....”  
Though head and heart,  
Have no value today,  
A need is there,  
To help the young,  
Who waits at the class,  
And it's a duty,  
That should be done,  
As they are the flowers,  
To be bloomed in future!  
- D M A S Dharmadasa

Reaction: a boat which is going against the current  
but which does not prevent the river from flowing on.  
- Victor Hugo



Picture by Saman Sri Wedage

# Dreamers' paradise

My hopeless days  
I yearn to lit up  
Enthralled  
By Children's  
Lively faces  
Sparkling  
With myriad of  
Bright colours  
Revealing enigmatically  
An ancient and sure recipe  
Assuring elixir of life  
And I sway  
To a rhythmic tango  
When time is spent  
Bent on extending  
To the maximum  
So that heart-pulsing  
Beat of the drum  
And my soul  
Find a common symmetry  
Worshipping this very moment  
Replete with glad-tidings  
Propagating the eternal  
Message of joy & hope  
Twinkling with thousand bright stars  
In the azure sky  
- Ranjan Amarasinghe

# Heal the world

Your mind was large enough  
to excel many others and win.  
Your heart was large enough  
To bless the world with your victory.  
Amidst losses and comments,  
While your blood was boiling  
While your eyes were grieving  
You mended your broken heart  
To peep beyond your generation,  
And witness great achievements  
The thrill was so great!  
And you were not selfish.  
Now it is the time  
For you to reappear  
And make amendments.  
To invent the only thing  
Which can save this earth  
Which is more powerful  
Than “DYNYNMITE”  
It is “HUMANITY”  
- Kumari Weerasooriya

# Untitled

When you smile  
I feel butterflies,  
When you say my name  
I'm clouds above.  
When you talk to me  
There's no one on my mind  
When you hold my hand  
I'm clouds above.  
All these things you do to me  
Yet you know not about it.  
Because you don't think of me  
Like I think of you.  
My wish is that I could let you know,  
That you and I could make it out,  
Only hope you don't mind,  
That I only want to be by your side...  
- Bhagya Senaratne