

The dreaming heron

What happened to those pulpy soft
Coloured clouds of vivid intriguing memories
Recalling pivotal previous events
That aimlessly floated in somnolence
Over the wild sky of untamed senses?
The wrinkled fading silvery lined
Questioning glassy eyes
Have betrayed beyond Hell and
Paradise like Alice in her
Dreamy wonderland.
A worn out weary generation
Is lost beyond hope and recognition.
Multi hued shiny feathers
Have left for ever exposing dilapidated; shabby bones
Beneath transparent thin weak flesh.
The tottering twig legs
Crumble below body gravity,
Dragging into the marshy ground;
Ostensibly invaded by worms
Ever ready to taste rubbish.
Triggered pondering endlessly
On unreliable fractured memories
Contingent and fragile are reflexive
In constructing imaginative creations
Like the Hermit Crab with a vulnerable shell.

Senarath Tennakoon

Benefactor

Saturday afternoon hill capital home drive lonely
New saloon car parents normally wish admire
Passing Mawanella Aluthnuwara junction slowly
Witnessed mother young pregnant girl near Hingula bridge
The old lady smiling wished predicted lift hospital
Agreeing – accommodated patient front seat
Enter easy comfortable looked satisfied
Enjoyed sun set entire hilly scenery
Ratne offered journey recovering memory past
His mother escorted expecting sister
Normal bus loaded passenger vacated seat
Head bent agony witnessed poor situation
Mid Kadugannawa climate tourists foreign happy
Natures wonderful creation distant Batalegala
Remind archaeological asset Sigiriya Rock resemble
Seeing mother pregnant they waive wishes best
Birds fly back home dark evening enter
Arriving summit road traffic clear
Entering hospital no crowd easy parking
Wheelcart carried her to doctor lady
Admission hospital immediately sanctioned
Facing counter noted accompanied mother guardian missing
Patient cried others move on suspicion
Awaiting gent near car attention
Police unit informed began perusing documents
Patient remained unusual silent
Police ladies started questioning
Suddenly the wanted mother came running from inside hospital
Very quietly, secretly disposed among ladies the absence
Lady doctor, police ladies smiling allowed 'attending urgent call of nature'
Gentleman benefactor thanked immensely
Who nearly lost freedom for want of 'Guardian'

N H G Seneviratne

*November: Our Dear Departed Souls Remember
November, November, is once more here
Let's think of our loved once ever so dear,
Fathers, mothers, brothers, sisters, husbands, wives and the rest
Also our dear teachers, who gave us their best
Forget not Erins Daughters our teachers of old
Who led us under the Great Good Shepherd's fold
Don't let this month pass useless away
Fervently for all dear departed souls let's pray.
Ard them, aid them, to reach heavens gate
Through Masses, alms, good deeds sacrifices now not late.
Anxiously, await they for that precious hour
Till the Great GOD release them by His power
Our help they seek: Let's not tarry;
With hope and trust to the Great GOD hurry
Praising and thanking HIM, to make them fit
While HIS precious blood cleanse them and to Heaven lift.*

Norma Perera

Better a diamond
with a flaw than a
pebble without one.
- Chinese proverb

A poet's poem

Sun shines, rain pours,
A little seed grows.
Time grows, the seed grows,
A tree becomes strong.
Days go and in the tree
Flowers begin to glow.
This nature's nature
Reflects the verses that grow
Within the heart of a poet

Githmi Sudhara Gunaratna