

Sumitra Balakrishnan

## The 'Pretty' Green Leaf

Try she did  
The pretty green leaf  
To hang on  
But he was too strong  
The robust wind  
Determined  
Adamant  
Egoistic.  
He bent upon her with all his might  
And pulled her off  
She shook... quivered... trembled  
Begging him to let her stay  
With her beloved  
The old ragged branch.  
But his need was greater  
He shook with delight  
As he took her  
On a ride  
Of passion  
Of thirst  
Of reckless desire  
As she quietly succumbed  
To his need and quagmire.  
An idle tear left her eye  
To touch a patch of soil  
The ground was broken, bruised and dry.  
The leaf heard something  
Hoarse and wry  
“why do you weep, o pretty leaf?”  
“you are but still green  
See what he has done to the whole of me!”

## Me?

Me?

Who is this?

Lost in this travesty

being someone's something

for everyone

Never thought that love would have so many shades of grey

Looked for the pot of gold

and lost the iron within me

I love being myself

living with my identity

giving shape to my thoughts

and being known by my name!

Get me there

get me quick

save me from sinking

in the floods of time.

## Alchemy

He took my heart and tore it to shreds

I gathered the bits and tied them with threads

wove it with dreams

it had no seams

he give it a tug

it came undone.

Revealed a tapestry

of colours so bright

that the rainbow up there

looked just so pale

I now shone like gold

never to be undone

or

untold

## **The Tempest**

An idle breeze on the blue beach  
as I watch the wet sunset  
touched me, caressed me and left me longing for more.  
When it came again, it came as the tempest  
drenched me, filled my heart, left me full  
Never again did I long  
never did I call  
for the breeze never remained idle after  
and never longing remained I.

## **About the Poet**

Sumitra Balakrishnan is currently pursuing her PhD in Management from Xavier Institute of Management Bhubaneswar (XIMB). She obtained a Master's degree in Communication Management and a Post-graduate diploma in Human Resource Management. Teaching postgraduate and undergraduate students is her passion. As a Visiting Faculty at XIMB, she teaches Business Communication and related specialist courses at the Postgraduate level at XIMB & XUB. Her solace is in writing, music and the beauty of nature.