



### **Maternal Verse**

'Mother' is poetry;  
Her protection, care, and guidance,  
poetry.

Her birth,  
poetry for millions.  
Her womb,  
poetry in vast ocean.  
Her words,  
poetry, akin to sky.

Poetry glistens in her eyes,  
In every step she takes, it resides.  
Frozen, it melts with each breath,  
Flourishing in her nurturing hands.

Without her, poetry can't roam,  
A lonely orphan's silent cry,  
Filled by those who embrace.  
Under her feet  
poetry lies, warming.

She and poetry remain.  
She is poetry;  
poetry is her.



**Johny Takkedasila**

Johny Takkedasila is an Indian Telugu poet, writer, novelist, critic, and translator, born on June 8, 1991, in Pulivendula, Andhra Pradesh, India. His literary journey began in 2016 as a Telugu poet, and since then, he has published 27 books in three languages.

He writes in Telugu, Hindi, and English. His Hindi volume, "Zindagi Ke Heere," has been published, and he has translated Telugu children's stories into English, resulting in the book "Tiny Treasures," published by the renowned publishing house Ukiyota.

Johny Takkedasila is recognized for his contributions to various topics within Telugu literature. His long poems on transgender issues and women's rights have received significant acclaim. He has also addressed issues such as the gay community, illegal relationships, and the Devadasi system in three separate novels.

He has received numerous awards for his work, including the prestigious Central Sahitya Akademi Yuva Puraskar for 2023 for his criticism book "Vivechani" in the Telugu language. His English poetry has been featured in many international anthologies, and his stories and poems have been published in international magazines. His English books "Puberty" and "Girls in Dark" are notable highlights of his literary career.

Educated up to the M.Tech, Johny Takkedasila currently serves as the head of the Telugu department at the online literary platform Pratilipi.

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