



2 Poems by Dr. Alexander Raju

A Wife in her Trauma

Everything is excusable, they say,
If you wanted to do so; but why should
You forgive and forget all hellish sins
Committed by your infidel partner?

You may argue that the street dog who likes
To eat shit from stinking public latrines
Cannot love the healthy homely food,
But die in the street like a rotten dog.

I can forgive your minor vices like
Smoking, drinking, gambling and nude dancing,
But I can't, when you bring a slut from street
To desecrate my matrimonial bed.

Am I Jesus Christ ready to forgive
All the sins of others and even willing
To die for the thousand sins of others?
He had to take his whip once to punish.

To forgive and forget is 'easier said
Than done'; they're not true identical twins
But like oil and water never to be mixed;
You may forgive but never you forget.

Every sinner should be punished as per
The gravity of sins, not more nor less;
A pardoned sin stands against the victim
As a crime and that's simple injustice.

I've no regrets, for you don't deserve me,
You couldn't recognize my true sacrifice;
Those who like and favour public rest-rooms
Can't love or feel homely in glamour rooms.

Complaint of a Divorced Wife

What a mean and base fellow you're!
Too uglier beyond common social sense,
Embodiment of abnormality,
Or incarnation of true faithlessness!

You left the cozy royal bed
For slimy, stinking street floors;



You loved sinful odour of slums
And came home late spraying perfumes.

You ignored your great glamour room
And went after public latrines;
You hated homely-taste cuisines
And ran after punching street-foods.

You smoked a lot and coughed a lot,
Drank until you felt the absence
Of alcohol in the liquor;
And slept in the bar after it's closed.

You're a stupid gambler foolish,
Played always with borrowed money,
You felt failure an intoxication
And enjoyed loss at your wife's income.

You aren't afraid of God or man,
You broke even God's commandments;
Forgot marriage a sacrament
And made fun of religious rites.

You bothered not on family's name
Or prestige, dishonored parents;
Divorce for you a division
Of half the house and half the child.

You destroyed old-age peace and hope
Of your legal parents; you spoiled
Whatever they earned for decades,
Their desire for a peaceful death.

You betrayed your innocent wife;
You stained her conjugal pureness;
You murdered the true innocence
With criminal intelligence.

For that alone, you'll be punished,
Her parents loved in a living God,
And if there's a God, they will see
The punishment that comes to you.

You marred the honour of parents,
Led a Bohemian way of life;
You ignored the fortune offered
By God or Fate, joy of home spoiled.

Her proud parents blindly believed
And transferred their luck to your hands;

It's like throwing the pearl garland
Before a swine, a senseless beast.

You shattered the best dreams and hopes
Of your wife who built a sweet home;
You used a hydraulic hammer
To kill a little butterfly!

You were the black beetle who flew
Around the burning bright oil-lamp,
You fell into the fire and died
But also put out the lamp-light.

For her faith in you was sincere
Her love for you was blind and true;
She burned like a candle for you,
You put out her light, and yours too!



Prof. Dr. V. Alexander Raju, an Indian English poet, novelist and short story writer has many books to his credit. *Ripples and Pebbles* (1989), *Sprouts of Indignation* (2003) *Magic Chasm* (2007) and *Hopes and Fears* (2020) are collections of his poems. His first novel *The Haunted Man*, based on the infamous Emergency period in India, came out in 1996; its second edition in 2009. His second novel *Upon This Bank and*

Shoal (2008) is a philosophical novel, published by CCB Publishing, British Columbia, Canada. *Poles Apart on the Same Bed* (2011) is a collection of his twenty- nine short stories. *And Still Plays the Abyssinian Damsel on Her Dulcimer* is based on Ethiopian history and legends, *When Babel Tower is Falling Down* and *Where is a domestic novel* and *They Shattered His Green Dreams*, a novel based on NATO's war against Libya the assassination of Gaddafi, are his latest novels. *The Voice of Ethiopia* (2008) is an edited work and *The Psycho-Social Interface in British Fiction* (2000) is a critical work. After his retirement from Baselius College, Kottayam, he joined Tripoli University in Libya. Currently he is Professor of Literature in University of Gondar, Ethiopia. Address: Kallarackal, Eranjal, Muttambalam, Kottayam – 686004, Kerala, India.

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