



## 2 Poems by Ketaki Dutta

### Broken Dreams

She dreamt of being an apothecary,  
With lady medics few and far between—  
She wished to throw off her veil  
While treating the ailing women.  
The moon bobbed up to hide  
    Behind the fronds of palm,  
Her wish came to be true  
The wish she made on the milky moon!

Grabbing the certificate, she went  
    To serve the humanity.  
Oh Alas! But it stood in jeopardy!  
Laila knew not what to do  
With her *hijab*,  
With her trampled aspirations!

She took the veil up  
Covered her face with it,  
Persona non-grata as she was,  
With her identity veiled,  
Negated rather by the loud diktats  
    Of the impending Terror!  
Peace was she dreamt of now,  
Peace was what she prayed for  
Other women would come in tow  
To cry themselves hoarse ...Or?

### APOCALYPSE

All lights of the world  
    Had been soaked by the  
    Black sun,  
This sun was about to lose  
    Its sheen, its golden rays,  
    Its heat, its warmth!  
The earth kept entering  
    Into a miasma of jarring sounds,  
    All objects crumbled into  
    smithereens of nullity,  
    it seemed.  
The vault of heaven crushed  
    Into small pieces,  
    Showering on dorps and cities—  
The noisy concussion  
Brought in a horrible  
APOCALYPSE!!



**Bio:**

Ketaki Datta [Ph.D] is an Associate Professor in English of a Govt. College, Kolkata, India, to be precise. She is a novelist, translator, book reviewer [with Compulsive Reader, USA, and Muse India, Hyderabad, India], and a poet. She has two novels, “A Bird Alone” and “One Year for Mourning”, the last being published by Partridge Publishing Co. USA. Book of short stories is in press. Her stories have been widely anthologized. Her book of poems, “Across the Blue Horizon” was published by Feedaread Publishing, U.K. aided by Arts Council, England. Her book of poems with Prof. Wilfried Raussert has been published from Germany titled, “Urban Reflections: A Dialogue in Poetry and Photography”. Her latest book of poems “The Music of Eternity” has been published in India by Penprints Publications. Her translated novels are three in number, “The Last Salute” being published from Sahitya Akademi, New Delhi, India. She has academic books to her credit too. She went to Lisbon[Cidade Universitaria], Univ. of Oxford and Univ. of California [Santa Barbara] to present her research papers on invitation. “Oral Stories of the Totos”, a research work on the tribals has been published by Sahitya Akademi. Her recent short story collection is “ Unshared Secret and Other Stories”.