



## The Napkin

SHOUNAK REZA

My  
Entire life pans out in front of me  
A huge cotton napkin  
Sewn and put together by miseries —  
Bits and scraps of it lie huddled together,  
Sewn carefully, they stick together.

My  
Many dreams are jotted down  
In the yellowed pages of a dusty notebook.  
As the notebook falls, the dust from it  
Makes me cough, cough, cough.  
Ah, if only dreams could speak.

My  
Dreams now have no touch of reality.  
The napkin stays abandoned.  
See how the stitches are lost to you —  
You who could never read  
The many words this napkin hid.

## MISS KATHAL PATA'S GOATS

TAQDIRUL ISLAM

Tonight I shall tell you, the story of that time  
I met Miss Kathal Pata underneath that bridge.

She had goats on her tail, and her hair smelled funny,  
She was big and rough, but she made a lot of money.

"How do you make your money?" I asked her like you do,  
"You're better off not knowing," said she, and I took her to be true.

We stood and chatted, and she then took off, not before  
A goat bit her skirt, and she gasped, "I'm feeding goats no more."

## DARK DIAMOND

SYED AHMED IRTIZA

It is the Dark Diamond that is glossy, glaring and stiff but very disguised. It wants to grab the whole ecstasy of the world. This diamond is very devious, sometimes deleterious. One convict dark diamond diffuses its character to other diamonds which demolishes others. It is effusive and effaces others. Old epoch is erroneous for this, not to mention the present. Some are very fatuous, similarly some are haughty. If allies extol, it ignites. In fact this diamond seeks this. Hatred is preserved in its veins where love is rarely found.

Some incisive darker one is as lethal as it is latent. Coupled with a bandit character, these are boastful. It brags of its ill beauty, which is surely not a boon for the world. This darker one may cause bleeding to others which creates a dark blemish where there is no benevolence and mostly the weaker are victim. The avarice of the diamond causes assault. The world is biased for these diamonds.

For a specific period of time the victim may be closed inside a barrier. After a limit the brutality comes out and colossal anarchy prevails. There is no prudence of it as none can realise this. Undeniably, this action is cataclysm to the world and destroying the bonds from inside. Though it is a quite normal phenomena, nobody pays compensation neither

compassion to it.

Unquestionably still there are some good souls bounded inside the dark diamond. It is necessarily true that they try to curb the disaster and condone others. The darker one also condemns them for the disaster. Consequently the world proceeds. They are conscientious enough but still not enough to prevent the darker one. These are the dazzling diamonds; very dignified, very rare.

Yes, this dark diamond is nothing but ill natured human conscience mind. It is dexterous coupled with anarchy inside its soul. Obviously it is more precious than any other thing. Best creature indeed. These people are astute enough to establish austerity and batter the weak believers. None the less, few benevolent souls of vast mankind uphold the truth. Even so the negotiations are nearly finished, but we still have to dot the i's and cross the t's. Discretion is the better part of valour. We have to edify the bestial souls out of darkness. Undeniably, unification is the only solution. If all the human beings irrespective of caste, creed and religion are merged in the same molecule, then that single molecule will make magnificent change to the world. We could snatch victory from the jaws of defeat.

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