

CRAVING**Soumee Bhaumik**

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I want to overdose on the
Salt in your tears.
I'd like to
Bury the shell of your ear
In the uncomplaining sands by the sea. Washed up with grief
Of the lover, the sound,
which walks past, down the aisle;
The cupid's vengeance,
Can't be tinted with love.
Your stealth, the bow above your lips-
Who were you trying to be
Standing in a flesh you weren't scared to lose?
I saw you as a raven,
As a dove.
I saw you as the sweat on your forehead,
The breath in your lungs.
I've bitten you off piece by piece
And failed to digest the core,
I've swam by your nightshade
As you left without a lantern.
My eyes were the sinners,
Watching you amputate and distribute Your dignity.
So why would I be the beggar?
"Better to reign in Hell
Than serve in Heaven"
I'm a turning in my grave,
You're the untouched innocence
I've held in secret.

ABOUT THE POET

Soumee Bhaumik is a student of Grade XII of Garden High School, Kolkata, India. Her poems have been recently published in the International Refereed Journal *Writers Editors Critics*, ISSN 2231-198X and *International Journal on Multicultural Literature*, ISSN 2231-6248. Her poems have found place in the January, 2023 issue of *Poetcrit*, ISSN 0970-2830. She has recently published in a peer-reviewed journal titled *International Journal of English Literature, Language and Skills* (Impact Factor 3.235), Vol 11 Issue 4/ January 2023. She has been awarded Gold Medal in Creative Writing at Fr. George Hess Literary Competition, 2022 in the ASISC West Bengal and North-East States Region.