

**ACT****Soumee Bhaumik**

Grade XII, Garden High School, Kolkata, India.

Poem History: Received: 02.04.2023 | Accepted: 03.04.2023 | Published: 16.04.2023

Journal DOI: <https://doi.org/10.56602/TDJ>Poem DOI: <https://doi.org/10.56602/TDJ/12.1.1630-1631>

When my mind is laid to rest,  
And my mouth dry,  
No eloquent bruises  
Would splurge on conversation.  
Rolling of a tongue  
In a miming vessel;  
Wouldn't it be sweet  
To look at the script  
Of the distracted playwright?  
His ink has retracted,  
And the stage is empty-  
Only one spotlight to chase.  
Men with their nonchalant ruggedness, Women and their forgotten tenderness  
Scramble into a mass  
Of deviousness,  
Trying to chase the light.  
Eyes of a bat,  
Will never fail to misguide you;  
So, watch from your balcony,  
As you run a blade through your hair  
To escape the claustrophobic proximity  
Of the ones who have failed,  
Of those who yearn to return.  
But if a stage is what you chose,  
A stage you will get on.  
Play a lunatic, play a lover, play the King  
And cascade into the hollows behind the curtains.  
You'll spiral into the nascent praise,  
Before you're an echo  
And you'll burst your veins  
To the cotton stuffed ears.  
They'll stand and they'll applaud  
But it won't always be for you.

It's not betrayal, it's the sphere you fell on  
Rolling down from the pinnacle.  
So hold your umbrella over your head  
And blame the playwright  
For your incompetence.  
It's what your instinct craves,  
The animalistic liquor that runs in your veins,  
Intoxicating, indoctrinating  
The narcissistic body you'd trade;  
And you comply every time.

### **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.