



Street child



Sinless soul!
You came behind
You looked shabby
All over muddy
oh... then I heard
An impatient shout
'Nona', 'Nona',
And your story began.
Matured talk
Like a caretaker,
Overtaken responsibilities,
To work over,
Is this childhood all about?
My heart wonders... why?
Oh... poverty... you are so unkind!
You murdered childishness in a child,
No trace of childhood talk,
No trace of childhood naughtiness,
Only an innocent smile to offer humankind.
Struggling poor soul!
You need to rise,
Not as an adult,
But as a gleeful child,
Sandcastles and dolls,
Isn't that your world?
So hurry up and come with me,
We shall give a try.

- *Finuza Farook Shazir*

Smile a while!



Oh! man! Oh woman!
Why don't you look at your passer-by
And greet him or her
With a bright smile!
That will bring the two hearts
Together!
When you keep your face morose
Others will look aside
And keep themselves far from you
But when your smile blossoms
Every passer-by will smell your friendship
What is lacking in the world
Is touch of heart with a broad smile
So... my dear humans
Open your closed lips
With a fresh smile
To strengthen human love.

-*M.Y.M. Meeadh*

Reminiscences



Coming across a cheerless phase to a victorious path together
Arouse my courage to face any challenge with you
Your precious gift releases my every sorrow,
And is the root of every delightful moment
Countless sweet and gloomy memories
Flow into my heart when I recall you
Still they remain fresh and cool
As a film transmits live!
Nearly five years I'd been with you
Which I feel as a never-ending journey
I did my best to achieve your goal
Dedicating so much that no one tends to do
The day is waiting for me
To bid farewell to you
Unbearable grief fills my heart
When I recollect that I'm going to lose you
You'll lose your virtuoso player and
I'll lose your dazzling events
Reminiscences of you and me
Will last forever deep in my heart

- *H.M. Sandumi Wathsala*

Farewell

Fare thee well!
Sceptre, formalities and dates,
Free as a gull
I'm flying away,
Away in haste,
To embrace thee,
The undying nature
The creator of being,
To sink my body and soul
In the waters of kindness and love
Gifted with extreme care
For mortals on earth,
Adios!

- *A.K.W. Perera*



Too old to have my wish



How I'd like to wander by the sea
Run a race along the sandy beach
Wade and hop in bubbling waters
Feeling the shimmering sands
Dancing under my feet
Alas... too old I am to have my wish.
How I'd like to climb the sacred peak
Crying Karunavayi! along with the crowds
Wash away my sins at Seetha Gangula,
Bathing in its ice cold waters.
Watch the rising sun
Peeping through mountain range
To worship the holy peak.
Alas... too old I am to have my wish.
How I'd like to stroll along
The jungles and the mountain tracks
With a knapsack and a walking stick
To guide my feet in the untrodden path.
Admiring the beauties nature has bestowed
Flora and fauna of this beautiful isle.
Alas... too old I am to have my wish.

-*Lalitha Somathilaka*