



Existential Ponder

Vasanthi Vasudev

From where did I come?

My mother's womb?
Am I made of the earth?
And all the elements?
Who am I?
And why was I breathed
With fresh life?

When I blossomed
Fluttering curved eyelashes
Chasing dreams and butterflies
Climbing trees and cutting patterns
Taking so much for granted....
None of these questions
Mattered in the least.

My mother's love
My dad's robust cuddle...
Candies and chocolates
Birthday surprises
Petty pillow fights
Gentle rebukes
Crocodile tears
More cuddles
And 'make up' cookies....

Where did I come from?
And what am I made of,

Who wants to know?
Why should I even care?

And then,
Without notice,
I grew up
And all good life
Went mute and deaf
Blind and rough...
Every celebration
Was gone with the blues....
Carefree joy
Disappeared like bubbles...
My hands were full
Holding a million cares
And my head reeled
Spinning tons of questions
That barely had answers!
Roles to play,
Commitments to heed,
Responsibilities to bear.
Promises many, to keep!

Years passed into silver grey
And suddenly, it did matter....
Where I came from?
Did my grandfather have diabetes?
Or glaucoma?
Which parent had died of cardiac arrest?
When would my story end?
I was craving to know all these
And more!

Strange it all seemed
That I did not know
The answers then
Not then,
And still, not now...
From where do I come?
And whence I go?

But between the question
And the unknown answer
Lay the mystery...
The saga of my life...
All toil and sweat
Tears and fears
Gains and losses
Triumphs and failures!

Again and again. I ponder...
Carrying mountain like burdens
Huffing and puffing
I, a mere speck of a speck, cubed...
Ride upon transient trajectories
On mirages, moons and milky ways.....
Just for a flit millisecond's second
In galactic time...
Aimless, needless,
Born from nothing and
Returning to nothing.

Does any of it
Make any sense?
Does my existence
Fit into any picture
Fill any need
Fulfil any purpose?
I wonder
And continue to
Ponder....
Ponder
Deep and still.
Still !!!

Verses by Vasanthi