

Kiriti Sengupta

moon — the other side

memories unveil themselves
through snapshots, even
the moon has its glory
pinned in poetry

elegance, or marks of disgrace,
you may argue,
for not all can be hunky-dory
with brushes soaked in
colors of passion
and much hunger

do you remember the bread
Sukanta left behind?

it was baked in
the blaze of a full moon night

a tombstone may ask for
flowers and your tears,
while frank hunger can only be fed
by some food to eat

if you can remember,
even the moon has its share of crevices
with restricted entry of light
of love
and sheer delight

[Note: Sukanta Bhattacharya was a Bengali poet and a key figure of modern Bengali poetry. His poetry is characterized by social rebel, patriotism and humanism. In a poem "Hey Mohajibon" ("Thou, Great Soul") Sukanta wrote: "A world affected by hunger is too prosaic; the full moon resembles a toasted bread"]

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keep an eye

among those three eyes of Durga
the third one has been the same
over the ages

it has been kept open
full or half

sculptors never bothered

they have been experimental
only on her earthly eyes 4

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reservation

I'm not wearing my engagement ring for years
don't think otherwise,
I enjoy a happy married life
but then, very few of us
take care of our fingers
it is only an occasional tingling sensation
that makes me look at my finger

I can remember the vault that has secured the ring
since I put it off my flesh and skin!

wish marriages came with their safety lockers 5

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a different ball game

one fine morning you wake up to realize
your poetry
has never been reviewed
you can now plan and think,
if I may suggest:

redoing all your old stuff;
replacing the words
with synonyms as found on google,
or in oxford advanced learners, and then

submit them to the journals
where the editors boast about their high standards

or

leave your old stuff as it is,
and think about the classic poets,
the masters,
who were explored
as they set out for their heavenly abode

petty mind;
it is yet to grasp
houses are made home
only in the earth!