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## Born of the Same Earth

Dr. Sucheta Chaturvedi

Brown, white, wheatish or red,  
We were all born of the same Earth.  
Borne by mothers, cared for  
By them and by the Earth.

My aches, loves, shames and games  
Are similar to yours  
Though we have different names  
And fit different frames.

My food and dress  
Maybe peculiar to you  
But I feel the same  
When I think of you.

My blood is red like yours  
And my breath is alive like yours.  
We may be different to look at  
But we feel the same.

I am happy when loved,  
Hurt when hated,  
Livid when angry  
And curious like a cat.

My blood boils when I  
See injustice,  
Your blood boils when you  
See injustice.

We have the same ancestors  
But we speak different languages  
Nor does it matter when  
It comes to emotions.

Our emotions well up  
When we are overwhelmed  
Yet we have carved  
Our territories, branded ourselves

Made ourselves different.  
Should we not remember  
We are bound by human bonds  
That transcend borders and lands?

Should we not remind ourselves  
We are bound by red blood  
That flows in our veins,  
And that it is never blue.

Born of the same Earth  
Yet divided into bands.,  
We make ourselves strangers

To those who were our friends.

Born of the same Earth  
But separated at birth  
We have carved and halved  
Our beloved Earth.

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**Bio Note:**

Dr. Sucheta Chaturvedi is an Associate Professor in the department of English, Lakshmibai College (Delhi University). An alumna of LSR and Hindu college; she has twenty five years of teaching experience. She has an M.Phil and PhD degree in literature from Delhi University. Indian writing, European drama and Women's studies are some of her areas of interest. She has authored a book on Post-colonial Indian writing besides poetry and articles for journals.