

ISSN: 0976-8165

# *The Criterion*

An International Journal in English

Bi-monthly Refereed and Indexed Open Access eJournal

*5th Year of Open Access*

Vol. 5, Issue-6 December 2014

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## **Preserving You**

**Poornima  
Bangalore, India.**

That room at the end  
Of the old village house  
You were born there  
In the cosy walls with a tiny window  
Where sun didn't bother us for long  
You suckled from my overflowing breasts  
I complained that you slept more  
I wove some sweaters  
Along with some dreams for you  
You fought, you cried  
Shared your privacy with me  
All in that room  
When you went to the city  
With an earnest desire to master physics  
Laws, velocity, thermodynamics  
I tried to keep you intact  
In that room  
With echoes of your laughter  
Of your whispers when you called me Amma  
Hush hush discussions turned silent  
I fought for your space  
I understood the lack of it all the time  
You never returned  
You said you hated your father  
For his remarriage, his drinking, his ways  
I still sleep in that room, son  
When you hear of me being no more  
Come and visit me there once  
I am sure you will find me  
And your childhood  
Just the way you left it