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Avenger

Shabistan Jafri

This morning

while holding a cup of tea in my hand

I am trying to find the reasons.

I am trying to find the reasons

of my rebellious temperament which has been

a cause of concern for many

and has often disturbed my cool.

I am trying to find out

why all helpless people

become the nucleus of my observations?

Why do I think about them with a fire in me?

Why do I think for long about all that can be done

to mitigate their pain.

I am neither a messiah nor a super hero.

Yes, I am neither of the two.

Yet, why can't I take crap, even a little bit?

Why every battered soul that I come across

or that I hear about or that I read about

takes my peace away?

Yes, takes my peace away.

Why can't I shut up like others do?

Why can't I mind my own business and ignore, just ignore?

Why can't I bear, just bear

like many others do?

Why do I see Nirbhaya in every girl

teased and tormented by some wretched?

Why do I feel like beating

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such wretched monsters to death.

Yes, instantly, that too without a second thought?

Why can't I take dishonesty?

Why can't I take it as the way of the world?

I on the contrary roar like a famished tiger.

I roar ferociously, really ferociously and get scary for many.

Why do I want all the taps nurturing injustice to run dry?

Run absolutely dry.

Why do the arrogant self centered egoists get on my nerves?

Why do I without delay want to tell them bluntly,

yes, bluntly that I do not like their faces?

I am thinking and wondering

if all this is because of some streak of madness in me

or a kind of obsessive compulsive disorder

that compels me to react in the same manner repeatedly

and that too without any remorse.

I am thinking that may be

it is there because I am an egoist

who has a sense of self righteousness.

No, this is not the reason says my mind.

Then why do I carry this rebellious stuff wherever I go.

Today, I am going to find the reasons

of my strange temperament.

After struggling hard

finally, I have found the reasons.

I am like this because

I am a poet.

A poet is bound to be like this.

A real poet is bound to be a visionary.

I am bound to be sensitive, hyper sensitive and react.

It comes naturally to me.

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God has sent me with a purpose.

I am not here just to eat, drink, live and die.

I am bound to think beyond myself at times.

In the process I lose my identity

and become one

with the sufferer, the weak, the exploited.

And on regaining my consciousness

I become a strong mouthpiece

for the many whose voices are muffled.

But I am a poet, not Hercules

If you really wish to unburden me

of the pain that I bear

take a bit of it.

Join me.

Bring forth the avenger in you.

Really, I sometimes get worked up

While thinking, thinking and thinking.

You too think beyond yourself at times.

You too think beyond yourself at times.