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Silence of a Woman

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She was silent,
When
Her dolls were snatched,
Her books were burnt,
Her dreams were caged,
Her desires were melted.

She sobbed quietly,
When
She was made subdued naming her a ‘girl’,
A weaker physique, destined to be a ‘honour’,
Designed to run lucidly like a humbled ‘deer’,
Fear to be spoiled with touch being as soft as a ‘pearl’.

She never knew a reason,
When
She was restricted to laugh, smile freely,
No permission to take decision for her openly,
Conditioned to be without rights always homely,
To wrap herself with clothes to save her modesty.

She only wept,
When
Scares were made on her smooth thighs,
Lusty fingers danced on her dusky face,
Licentious eyes forcibly licked her coral lips,
Savage animal penetrated fiercely her inner.

She felt cheated,
When
She was conquered with arms of customs and values,
Colonized, steered, made barren with hegemonic force,
Marginalized to be alien, with no soul, living like corpse,
A mute spectator hearing a lot progressive hues and cries.

She was agonized,

When

She was made ‘story’ in the media for sensations,
Commoditized to sell products for more profits,
Exasperated her curves to be bought in markets,
Ignoring her inner beauty to be appreciated else.

She screamed all alone,

When

Ogling gaze was fixed on her bras,
Crooked roads tapped her rounded arse,
Cruel hands of darkness sniggled her legs,
Hoarse abusive voices frightened her ears.

She always groveled,

When

Her vagina suffered the pains of mutilation,
Many times to fulfill the ever-ending greed of heir,
To cultivate the crop of owners of her body,
But forbidden her penchant of creating own image.

She never questioned,

When

She was declared witch in name of caste and creeds,
Called fallow for having no issues with sterile husband,
Announced drab for going through rapes by drunkard,
Named slut for living without cares with happiness.

She cursed herself,

When

She was abused cruelly for being a ‘woman’,
Treated as a culprit to prove her intact hymen,
A machine to bear children without her own consent,
An object to satisfy him for his inert casual lust.

She was puzzled,

When

She could not understand difference between him and her,
Whether his penis was stronger than her vagina,
Whether his semen was thicker than her monthly blood,
Whether his strength was more productive than her.

She laughed at herself,

When

She was beaten to die for voicing her desires,
 Since she knew he was afraid of her vigor,
 It was She who inculcated in him the power,
 Authorized him to form a perpetual captive around her.

Biographical Note:

Mr. Rajeev Yadav is working as assistant professor in English Literature in Government Degree College, Basti which is affiliated to Deen Dayal Upadhyay Gorakhpur University, Gorakhpur, Uttar Pradesh. His research interest lies in Shakespearean Drama, Indian English Drama, Writings on woman, Cultural studies and Creative writings. He is doing his research on Vijay Tendulkar, Marathi playwright with title “Power and Violence in the Plays of Vijay Tendulkar”. He has presented 30 research papers in the national/ international seminars, conference and symposium delivering his opinions on multidimensional issues, current and prevalent, covering environmental studies, Indian culture, comparative study of different linguistic plays and English teaching in India. His 14 original research papers have been published in national/ international journals of great repute consisting of subjects, such as, various perspectives in plays of V.S. Naipaul, Vijay Tendulkar, Girish Karnad, Mahesh Dattani, Amtav Ghosh and Jhumpa Lahiri. His published books *Folk Theatre in Awadh* and *Ecocritical Perspectives in Plays of Vijay Tendulkar* are commendable in its outlook and critical analysis.