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In the Pen of a Retired Teacher

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Alone sitting on my old armchair
In the front veranda
Purposelessly think of by-gone working days,
The very first day and the grand farewell
In my honour,
And the days between them,
Mixed with joy,smile,tears and grief.
Memories are flashing one by one
Making me flown in their streams.
Was there almost five and thirty years;
And this thought is tormenting
The required strength of living
The remaining days.
Now all days are my holidays,
And leisure is my only mate.
I enriched the vessel of my teaching life
A little.
I witnessed the birth of many new possibilities,
And the death of many young hopes.
In the cycle of Nature
Some go and some come to fill the emptiness.
I will not be perennial,
But I will live,and surely live
In the hearts of my children-my students.

A Short Third-Person Biographical Note:

SUPRIYA MANDAL passed graduation with *hons.* in English from University of Kalyani, Kalyani, West Bengal, M.A. in English from Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi, U.P., and B.Ed. from Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi, U.P. She was a Guest Lecturer of English at Nagar College, Nagar, Murshidabad, West Bengal, and at present is an Assistant Teacher at B.P. School (under W.B. Govt.), Murshidabad, West Bengal. She loves writing, recitation, singing and dramatic performance.