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O Dreams! Be Mine

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Virtual is the realm of dreams,
A space I shall never tread,
Yet I spend so much of my life
Exploring its infinite avenues,

Those unmarked crossroads I cross
Some days in joyful stride,
On others, in trembling fright.
Through shifting hues of emotion,
I pause and learn at every signal.

The visions I cherish most
Lead my wandering steps back in time,
Returning me to a life once lived,
Where I can still meet those I lost,

Who left this earth far too early,
Yet sealed my being with their love,
Enduring beyond all parting.
What more could I ever cherish
Than to belong, if only in dreams,
To the wholeness life denies me now?

Bio Note:

Pramod Rastogi is an Emeritus Professor at the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Lausanne (EPFL), Switzerland. He is a Member of the Swiss Academy of Engineering Sciences. He is the 2014 recipient of the SPIE Dennis Gabor Award. He is a Fellow of the Society of Photographic Instrumentation Engineers (SPIE), a Fellow of the Optical Society of America (OSA), and a Distinguished Fellow of the Optical Society of India (OSI). He was Editor-in-chief of the international journal of Optics and Lasers in Engineering (Elsevier) between 1999 and 2019. He was an honorary Professor at the IIT Delhi between 2000 and 2004. He was a guest Professor at the IIT Gandhinagar between 2019 and 2023. He is presently an honorary adjunct Professor at the IIT Jammu.