



Kumar Sawan

Traffic

I see the red light
And I stop
With every one
Stopping beside me.

I check my face
In the mirror.
It appears older
Every time I look.

I throw a curse or two
To the people,
To the crowd,
And to the traffic.

While the scorching heat
Slaps my face,
I see some lad
Cleaning the window shields.

Perhaps he wanted
Just twenty bucks
And I just had to say
Oh! Life sucks.

From the corner
Of the street,
I hear something, something
Like a groaning stomach.

Amidst loud horns
and heat I wonder,
How can I hear Hunger
In the street.

I drop my helmet's shield
And close my eyes
And hear warning whistles,
Angry silencers.

I then hear
The groaning stomach
Growing louder, and
Louder and louder

I open my eyes
And see the beggar
And the boy, coming
Towards me, together.

I reach for my wallet
And see every vehicle
Moving again, And I move too
Leaving everything behind.



Kumar Sawan

Kumar Sawan was born and brought up in Lucknow. He is currently pursuing his Master's in English Literature from Lucknow University.



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