



**Chaitali Sengupta**

## Lost Freedom

When a triangle piece of sunlight  
peeped out of the tall building  
draping our city,  
on a cold winter morning,  
they trampled on it,  
pinning it under their heavy boots.  
Freedom bled  
in the tattered field  
and blacked out the sun,  
while bondage, like a bird

rattled in the cage.

Measuring the moment  
with a spoon, I watched  
as no one seemed to mind.

Watching silently the crumbling of a society...

it's last stitch undone.  
In the hour of annihilation  
my hair stands on end,  
words drip  
and then fade.

## Mute land

In the scrapbook of memories,  
I see those red pebbles  
collected beside a river once...  
that flew past, in the map of dreams.

There, I suffered with my people  
and left in a hurry,  
closing the eyes of the dead  
those whom I could not save.

I left...  
on the back of my coatless father  
with fire raging in my belly  
clutching those red pebbles....  
while the mute land stared back at me.

## Seeking asylum

The queue is long  
like a train serpentine,  
crawling in silence  
at the borders;  
the faces, all vacant  
like scraps of humanity  
littered away,  
forgotten by destiny.

Whiplashed by laws,  
life is but a crime scene  
tracing detailed fingerprints  
of pain.  
Scanning an entire life  
bending it with  
whimsical pressure of  
the bureaucratic thumb.

And all the while  
the blue digits on the arm  
scream: You're only a number.  
Seeking asylum.

## **Chaitali Sengupta**

---

Chaitali Sengupta is a published writer, translator, journalist from the Netherlands. A regular contributor to the Dutch online newspaper Eindhoven News, she writes and translates for other Dutch media platforms too. Her poems, short stories and articles have appeared in many literary platforms in India too, like Muse India, Indian Periodical, Borderless Journal, Setu Bilingual, The Asian Age, The Statesman, Different Truths. Her translated work “Quiet Whispers of our Heart” (Orange Publishers, 2020) received good reviews at the International Book Fair, Kolkata, India. Her poems are part of acclaimed anthologies, published from both the USA and India.

---

## **Get Your Book Reviewed**

If you have got any book published and are looking for a book review, contact us. We provide book review writing service for a fee. We (1) write book review (2) publish review in CLRI (3) conduct an interview with the author (4) publish interview in CLRI. [Know more here](#).

## **Authors & Books**

We publish book releases, Press Release about books and authors, book reviews, blurbs, author interviews, and any news related to authors and books for free. We welcomes authors, publishers, and literary agents to send their press releases. Visit our website <https://page.co/Vw17Q>.