

## SILENT DAYS : A STRENGTH TO POETRY

***Barnali Chakraborty\****

Poetry is a work of art that helps a poet to delve into the recesses of his heart and also reach millions of hearts breaking boundaries. Jaydeep Sarangi in his Silent Days deals with his native land, culture, nature and the question of self-identity .

The simplicity of the words chosen makes the collection phenomenal. Poems like ‘Where are we going’ touches the sensitive mind. The senses peeping into the invisible self reminds me of Brahma, the eternal soul of which all living creatures are a part. ‘Mystery of life’- a search for a light at the end of the ‘blind hole’.

*“A clock ticks somewhere  
In the blanket of silence”*

The question of self identity, the purpose of one’s existence arises. We are slowly inching towards our final destiny. ‘Going to a Holy Place’ is another poem dealing with the same theme of self identity. The dip in the holy waters of Varanasi for purifying one’s soul and getting rid of all sins and getting prepared for the “final time”.

*“Somewhere, I hear a door turning for the final time  
in a silent room of its own.”*

His poem ‘Growing old with time’ reminds me of Shakespeare’s sonnet no 60 where time is personified as a reaper with a scythe in his hand to mow down everything that is beautiful and delve trenches of wrinkles on its face. Jaydeep finds in his old age the remembrance of his youth standing in front of him as :

*“When you and me are two different islands  
separated by years  
one reflecting the other”*

Old age is full of experiences of his youth when he was ‘restless leaping from stone to stone’.

In his poem ‘When you call’ the pull of his native land is clearly understood. The call subsides amidst ‘the work - plans’ gives rise to myriads of experiences of the life in Metros where people are endlessly running after something. Know not what? The insatiable search for nature’s greenery with the contrasting concrete world that is developing is heart rendering.

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*\* English Teacher, Reviewer, Jamshedpur, Jharkhand, India, Mob. : +91 9122808356*

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*“It longs to embrace small but scenic rivers flowing gently.*

*in remote native links of this incredible country”*

Jaydeep Sarangi’s “Silent Days” is a valuable contribution to the world of art. His views are profound, disguised in simple words. His lucid expression makes him one of the leading English poets of contemporary Indian English literature.

**Name of the Book : Silent Days (Poems)**

**Poet : Jaydeep Sarangi**

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