

CHAPTER 16

Him and I and You

Jyothi Justin

Abstract

The poems *Him* and *I and You* were written in the years 2016 and 2017 respectively during my undergraduate days. The poems share the admiration and love for an imaginary romantic interest. They stem both out of a sense of insecurity and knowledge that the other does not belong to the speaker. Yet the later poem is written from a general perspective without assigning any gender to the speaker and the listener/reader. This poem also has the potential to transcend romantic interpretations to represent a more innocent or even complex human relationships. Though never a great admirer of poems, I had to read a number of poems for my coursework. This together with the teenage infatuations prompted me to undertake the task of writing these short writings that I love to label as poetry. I had just begun blogging then and had written mainly book and film reviews. This was my first creative writing attempt for the blog in which I used pen-name 'Nanditha' (after the famous Malayali poet). I chose to add these writings online as it gave me a sense of security (being anonymous then but now I have added my real name as well). By publishing online, I was also able to receive criticism and comments from my close ones with whom I had shared my writings.

Link to Work

<https://nandithaspoems.blogspot.com/>

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I and You

I know u don't belong to me yet I crave for u
I know your song is not for me yet I sing for u
I know we dont make a pair yet I long to be with u
I know we dont have a history yet I love u
I know we belong to different worlds yet I see u
I know you dont know me yet I know u
I know your smile is not for me yet I crave to be its reason

Him

I see a sparkle in his eyes
It makes me blossom amply
Not sure what the genesis is
I just want it to last infinitely

Contributor Biography

Jyothi Justin is a second year PhD Scholar with the Digital Humanities and Publishing Research Group at IIT Indore, India. She hails from an English and Comparative Literature background. She completed her Master's on the same from Pondicherry University. Born and raised in a small coastal village of Kollam (Kerala, India), she is interested in exploring the intersections between literary works and digital media. She is also interested in using digital mapping tools for literary research. She loves to read fictional works though she seldom attempts to write. She maintains a blog entitled "Nandhitha's blog", which she began writing while pursuing her undergraduate programme in English Language and Literature. Her blog contains mainly her random thoughts on life, book and film reviews along with a section that she loves to call "poems". The blog is not yet made public but it will soon be fully functional. Besides her interest in literature and films, Jyothi is also interested in gender studies and gender movements, especially feminism and queer studies. As a result, she is also interested in films and other visual narratives with similar themes. This is her first creative writing publication.