

# The Heavenly Sky

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*Translated from Assamese by*  
Dr. Ananda Bormudoi



*A PWF Book*

## *The Heavenly Sky*

*A collection of poems originally written in Assamese by Dr. Farida Ahmed and translated into English by Dr. Ananda Bormudoi.*

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# Language of Silence

Silence is not stillness  
Silence speaks without making a noise  
Silence has its own language  
And hope as well  
It expresses what has not been said before.  
Ideas which crowd your head  
Find way in words .  
Ideas coming into your mind uninterrupted  
May gag your voice  
And you are dumb.  
To what effect you raise a voice  
Negligence, oppression, torture and humiliation?  
If you so like you can find the cause of silence  
Silence can hide the secrets of the heart  
Check differences.  
It reveals without words untold misery.  
Silence shelters a thousand questions and answers.  
You need a feeling heart  
To puzzle out.

## Snare of Youth

You came secretly  
Like a lover  
I was shy in stealing a glance  
My heart quivered.  
You changed the hue, form and meaning of life.  
You inspired a zest for life  
And taught me to dream.  
I became slightly unmindful of myself  
I was unaware where I lost you.  
Many a thought and feeling  
Remained unexpressed.  
I did not know  
I loved you.  
I wanted you beside me  
Knowing it was not possible.  
And yet my heart leaps up in joy  
When I remember.  
Heart will shelter this warmth  
Till I depart.

# The Wheel of Life

Keeping pace with time  
Life goes ahead.  
Childhood, adolescence and youth end one day.  
Once I thought I was the center  
A playmate, a lover, a wife and a mother  
Busy all the time  
Without me time will stand still.  
Time suddenly quickened pace  
Wheel of life moved on  
In the same way  
But I had to stand aside.  
My presence or absence  
Causes no tangle now.  
Tangled up with time  
My stay now becomes tremulous.  
At the end of believing myself the centre  
Now I am rendered an appendix.  
I exist  
But exit will make no difference.