

R Bala

The answer lies within

“Grandpa!” my voice broke the silence sitting on the garden bench.
“Sometimes I wonder if the world is safe anymore.
There is hatred and crime all around
Cries due to Cyclones, quakes and floods.
May be I was safe in my mum’s womb, or until I was given a name
Or perhaps till I learned to walk on my own or until I left home.”

Grandpa smiled and said “Son,
The world is same as ever, nothing’s changed!”
I couldn’t trust my ears but felt numb.

“We always have felt happy or sad”, he moved on
“Feared someone, felt humbled or went mad.
We all toil to earn our bread and bow before the Master,
And why! You still love me and so do I.”

“Awry things go when you want more or better
And to attain it don’t mind breaking the law.”

Driving back home, Grandpa’s words kept playing in my mind.
The simplicity in his thoughts had moved my within.
“I would be safe”, I thought to myself “if I drive so within my lane,
Make love galore if I share with others than to cause harm
Nature would take care of me if I vow to respect her.
And why do we dedicate just one day each in a year to Friendship, Peace, and Environment.”

Stopping at the lights in city centre, I could now see only happy faces.
People coming from all over the world
Busy crossing the road, hanging out with friends
Getting off the bus and hopping on,
A kid chasing the doves while his granddad looks at him in delight.
Everything was so beautiful and cheerful.

Suddenly it started to drizzle and the wipers turned on
I smiled at the dirt being washed away.
I could see better,
A safer me as my car started moving towards my home.