



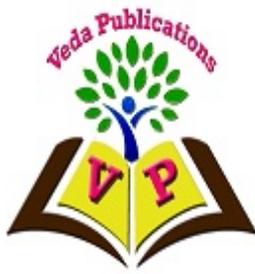
POEMS OF KARAN SINGH PHALSWAL

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1. BETWEEN FAITH AND REASON



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Between blind faith and reason's cold retreat,
 The soul stands trembling on a bridge of air
 Where hope and skepticism gently meet,
 And silence breathes what neither truth or lie can bear

The stars still burn with promises unknown,
 Yet shadows fall where certainties once lay.
 We seek a voice more sacred than our own,
 But find ourselves where prayers fade away.

Is doubt a flame and faith a kindled lie?
 Does light descend or rise from inward gleam?
 One lifts the heart, the other asks us why,
 And both dissolve within the same deep stream.

Get in that space where neither claim is king.
 The soul may find the root of everything.



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2. WHERE IS GOD

Where is this God, the wise and the weak have sought –

In temple walls or wind's uncharted flight?

In holy books by ancient sages taught,

Or in the hush that softens the edge of night?

Is He the fire that burns, yet leaves no trace,

The voice that stirs but never speaks aloud?

A distant throne of every secret place

Where sorrow kneels and doubts become a shroud?

I searched the stars, but none would point the way.

I searched my heart, but it echoed back my cry.

If He is love why does love go astray?

If He is just why the guiltless suffer,

Yet in my breath a whisper not mine—

Perhaps in us, the seed of Him is sown.



3. DREAMS OR REALITY

I wake up to find the world a shifting guide,
Where shadows mimic truth with subtle art.
The stars that shone now vanish from the skies.
And leave no trace upon the dreaming heart.

Was love I know fragment of the night,
A whisper from the threads of sleep and air,
Or does it live beyond my waking sight,
Unseen, yet real as breath is ever there.

The rose I touched -- did thorns not pierce my skin?
Did laughter not arise from lips I kissed?
If dreams deceive, then what lies deep within –
A life unloved or moments that I missed?

Though dawn may strip the veil from what is true,
My soul still walks the paths where dreams once grew.

ABOUT THE POET:

Karan Singh Phalswal has been writing poetry as a way of engaging with the profound questions of life, existence, divinity, faith, reason, nature, the unity of being, and the contradictions within human behaviour and thought. With over thirty-five years of experience as an Associate Professor of English Language and Literature in the Higher Education Department of Haryana, he continues to nurture a deep creative impulse through the medium of verse.