

## I Know FIRE



**B S Tyagi\***

I know FIRE-

That is made to cook food

And sustains human life

That surely uplifts mood

In hoary freezing winter.

I know FIRE-

The proud victors had made

And put barns, fields to the torch

The vanquished were down and out

Celebration held over corpses and ashes.

I know FIRE-

That rages through forests

And wreaks havoc around

That renders homeless

Myriad beasts and birds

I know FIRE-

That the rioters used  
And set houses ablaze  
Pitiful cries and screams  
Could be heard all around.

I know FIRE-

That thunder crashed in the sky  
Mournful cries rent the sky  
That engulfed men and women  
In a twinkling of an eye.  
I sat thinking of Prometheus  
Why did he steal FIRE?  
Why did he suffer gods' ire?  
Would that he witness all,  
He'd be filled with remorse.

\*B S Tyagi comes from India. He writes in both Hindi and English. He has several books-fiction and non-fiction to his credit. His poems have been included in several anthologies. He writes short stories which regularly appear in national and international literary magazines. His reviews appear in national magazines across the country. Besides, he has translated four books of poems.