

## DOUBT

Miss. Ananya Mujumdar\*

FYBA

Sophia College for Women, Mumbai

I hack at my soul  
with an axe forged of doubt.  
Each scattering splinter  
feeds my perverse pleasure.

Pain is not what I ask for,  
yet so miserably crave.  
If it doesn't come from elsewhere,  
I inflict it upon myself.

I am told that I can change,  
but I linger in purgatory;  
torn between the ache I despise  
and what it has moulded me into.

The line between self-disdain and narcissism  
blurs every passing day.  
The pendulum of my conscience  
swings between rumination  
and glorification of the wreckage.

## Chasm

The chasm between us unfolds and broadens,  
the tension grows palpable  
until it seems to have a pulse of its own,  
Is it possible to miss someone who  
never physically left, but whose absence  
I feel in each organ, every bone?

Like poles of a magnet, or parallel lines,  
we are, so very close, yet so very far.

I know you can still understand me,  
our stories are the same.  
Two bodies, two hearts, but a shared soul  
that is trying to navigate this cosmic game

My love for you, though it has transformed,  
has never once turned pallid.

Every laugh we share feels forced,  
I pine for the ease that we had.

I want to reach out to you, to hold you in my arms,  
but this newfound chasm seems to hold you better than I can.

### **Sight**

Is it better to be all seeing,  
or is it better to be blind?  
Sight brings nought but misery.

To perceive is to experience hell,  
to be perceived is worse.  
The scrutinizing gaze of the omniscient eye  
tears me apart, limb to limb.

The eye shows me a mirror,  
I stare blankly at my face.  
I show no recognition,  
for the reflection is not me.

I do not know what I am,  
surely not this prison of flesh.  
Perhaps I am unfiltered consciousness,  
gnawing at constraints of matter.

\*\*\*\*\*

*\*Ananya Mujumdar is a First Year B.A. student, majoring in English Literature, and a minor in Psychology. Passionate about language, literature, and the ways stories reflect society, she enjoys exploring human experiences through reading and writing. Beyond academics, she loves drawing, travelling, and discovering new perspectives that inspire creativity and personal growth.*