

Beauty

By Malkeet Kaur

A woman incarcerated in flawless earthly dimensions,
shrivels up within the corneal walls,
slithers and sags like
writhing fins in a glass bowl
perched on a precipice
when the dimensions crack.

The slushy intricacies effuse
from beyond the squishy corners;

sweaty grime on the neck
of a hawker woman in trains;
a ghost of a baby sobbing
in drugged sleep on a jutting, lean hip,

scaly feet of a woman, frenetically scurrying,
across the city's monstrous traffic,

gnarled fingers working slavishly
in the early hours around the dilapidated rooms.

The spilled beauty in these scattered splinters and dolorous dregs
seep into the conch shells
to morph into the divine cadence

of a deity's enduring fortitude.

Malkeet Kaur bio: Malkeet Kaur hails from India. She has been working as a teacher in Mumbai for almost past ten years. She writes poems mostly as a therapy and to assert her strong female identity in a patriarchal world. Few of her poems are published in anthologies and online journals like Episteme, The Incredible Women of India, Resonating Strings, The Significant Anthology, Acerbic Anthology to protest against female violence and many more.