

The Adolescent Wind

By Sanjaya Kumar Mishra

As the wind brushes past her hair,
it lifts before letting it cascade down like waves in sea.
The moist air wets her lips,
jasmine touching a tender corner of her heart.
She wavers.

She wavers from her path,
chosen for her by some great and not so great people,
standing atop some poles or ivory towers.
A path, with a promise of some nuggets at its end.

Her parents command her to move straight in its middle,
lest she would veer towards the left or the right,
Where the deep gorges lurk,
ready to pull into their abysmal depths.

But before she knew, the road itself swerves and narrows,
till she finds herself at its brink,
Waiting for the faint tap of the wind,
to tip her down.

Sanjaya Kumar Mishra bio: Although Sanjaya works as a geologist, searching for ground water in underdeveloped areas, and writing has always been his passion. His numerous field trips to remote places often provide him the footage for his stories. Sanjaya's stories have been published in desilit.org, dispatchlit.org, BTW Magazine, splitlipmagazine.com, "At Home and Abroad: Prize-Winning Stories" by Joyous Publishing, Lost Coast Review by Avignon Press Books. One of his children's stories was translated into Chinese and was published in both USA and China last year. His other publications include stories in 'Anything Goes Volume I', 'Flash It', 'Heroes and Villains' and he looks forward to be published in many more anthologies.