

Acceptable Injustices: The Irony

By Pavit Saini

"It'll be fine,

Everything will be okay"

They whisper in my ear,

Thinking I can be fooled so easily.

Yet the cycle repeats,

Another pea stolen from its pod,

Another leaf mistaken to be

From a whole other tree.

No one seems to notice the crime,

For they do not speak out.

"Don't argue,

You'll only lose your voice"

For a moment I ponder,

Are my thoughts invalid?

What sort of injustices

Are ever to be accepted?

But I find that maybe

The others are too scared.

I find that perhaps,

I must do the talking.

“It’s a dirty game you play,

Do you want others to know?”

And I then feel foolish

To think that I would ever be convinced.

Of course I will protest

Against those wrongdoings.

Of course I will want

Everyone to know.

“Well, it doesn’t matter,

It’s just a pea in a pod.”

But how could you allow

The smallest wrongs slip through?

And then it is revealed

That in fact,

“We don’t care.”

And the cycle repeats.

Empty

By **Mrs. Lombardi**

She was your storm buddy.

When you noticed the sky growing gray
and the clouds rushing in
you'd swoop her up and sit outside
with her cradled in your arms.

You knew she'd get worked up
when the lightning began to strike
and the thunder began to roll
so you were preemptive.

As she grew older
she couldn't see or hear
but you still cradled her
in case she could
FEEL the on-coming storm.

Now you stand on the deck,
watching the gray clouds twist and form--
your arms and our home
Empty.

They Say Love Is Fast

By Archi Kamath

They say love is fast

Like the roar of a river

Or the chant of a crowd

It must be noticed

To be witnessed

To showcase itself

Like a rose in a dome of glass

I digress

Love is always there

Like the hug of a mother

Or the laugh of another

Love is gentle

It is kind

Patient

Love does not need to rhyme

In silence it stands

Love does not require holding hands

Love is not a flame; it is the sun unnoticed by all but one

Too quickly do we judge readily

Too far do we live in cecity

Too long do we credit the melody

When our love remains in *harmony*