

Soil by Katta Rajamouly

The chief venue for life and death
And for rebirth for virtues and values
Ebbs and tides; victories and failures
You let a struggle go on till breath;

The kite soars and soars; the thread
Helps it fly high and high into the sky
In a boy's hands in the plains stand by
Falls to you alone with tail and head;

The athlete jumps with all his vigor,
And sky-touching spirit as a big prize;
But comes back to you in his tiny size;
The stars mock at over aiming nature;

The farmer ploughs in sweat his fields;
The sense of duty for life of creatures
The sense of beauty for due pleasures
Growing from your heart your yields;

The patriot fights a relentless struggle;
Dies for the image in endless chronicle;
Merges you as a tiny deathless particle
To rise again to face the pathless tangle;

To offer life, you are the life-fountain;
The life to offer breath from your heart;
The life to pour growth from your part;
An inexhaustible source for all to attain;

Katta Rajamouly (b.1952) is a professor of English by vocation and a poet, short story writer, essayist, critic and translator by avocation. He has published *The Poetry of Philip Larkin: a Critical Study*, *GRAMMAR*, *Dictionary of Grammatical and Literary Terms*, *Art of Speaking and Learn English through Conversation*. His creative contributions appeared in *Muse India*, *Kakatiya Journal of English Studies*, *TRIVENI*, *Commonwealth Review*, *The Dance of the Peacock* (published in Canada) etc.

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