

JUST FOUR *Angles*



Rita Nath Keshari

Just Four Angles

a novel by
Rita Nath Keshari



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By Rita Nath Keshari

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What is love? Who knows the answer?

For each seeker the experience is so different.

Set in twenty-first century Kolkata, this novel *JFA* portrays the anguish and the aspiration of four young people who wish to find fulfilment in their personal life. Confident about their professional growth, they feel that finding the perfect shade of happiness is only a matter of time.

With all the ardour and innocence of youth, they venture forth to reach an ever-receding goal. Will their experiences compel them to admit that love is an illusion that has been pursued relentlessly? Or will their efforts to manifest love in their life open up new vistas? Read on to explore for yourself the enigma of the four angles.



Rita Nath Keshari is an acclaimed creative writer, critic and translator with nine published books so far. Her short stories have been in the syllabi of English departments of Pondicherry University, Central University of Tamil Nadu and Bharatidasan Government College for Women, Pondicherry. She is recipient of many Literary Awards including the Rock Pebbles National Literary Award, Bhubaneswar, Odisha.

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A Collection of Poems

Fiery Silences

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Foreword

From the embers of our agony a poem is born. However, it is only a true poet who can nurture it to its full blossom. This art of captivating beauty and giving it a permanent abode is found rarely among its neophytes. They may worship at the altar of beauty and rhythm but the Muse is forever playing truant, sometimes it favors a deserving few and the poet Dr. Pratyush Mishra belongs to this charmed circle. This poem reveals an acuity of perception and a rare craftsmanship. The lines are pared and polished till they become memorable. Even the issue of identity acquires a refreshing outlook when he says, *"Ah! But there is a poet/spread across my mind / like a spider's web / beyond that there is only – "I AM", / You ask me name ... I must say / I don't know". ("Am I writing life As A Poem" p.5)*

In many of his poems he turns philosophical without falling into the familiar trap of cynicism. He evokes old sentiments, re-values them and reminds us that nothing is actually lost. Existence cannot be measured and the so-called dimensions of our lives are forever shifting, defying logic and schooling. Poems like *"As You Read"* (p.10), *"Time as I perceive it now"* (pp.13 – 14), *"The Vagabond's Heart at the Turn of season"* (p.22) reflect the depth of his observations about life's cycles. Dr. Mishra surprises his readers with his subtle sense of humour with his reticence and with his confessional moods.

It would but be natural for readers to expect that a young doctor, barely in his mid-twenties, would sometimes indulge himself in love poems. He certainly has elevated this theme to its predestined heights and the intensity of his emotions can stir long forgotten feelings in ageing hearts.

In poem after poem, he converses with different elements of the universe and helps us to step out of our cloistered existence. Sometimes, the banal becomes significant and the magic wand of his poetic vision. The streets lights in "*In A Daze*" (P.72), the rain in "*Cold Dreams*" (P.103), the crowded lanes in "*Wandering Through the City*" acquire a unique substantial character and we wonder how we missed noticing them all this time.

He does raise his voice against institutionalized religions, against the politics of hatred and against the crumbling edifices of social propriety. Dr. Mishra has included a large number of poems, written according to different techniques, in this anthology. Eschewing the usual practice of including some thirty or forty poems in the first anthology, Dr. Mishra has been very generous in including a majority of his poems here.

This will give us the opportunity of savouring the rich spread of his poetry.

I thank him for serving the Muse so well when he has received accolades as a medical practitioner. He believes in healing scarred souls as well as diseased bodies. May his poetical odyssey continue on the high seas of life.

Dr. Rita Nath Keshari