



I Won't Let You Go: Selected Poems

By Rabindranath Tagore

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I Won't Let You Go: Selected Poems By Rabindranath Tagore

In what a profound sadness are sky and earth immersed! The further I go, the more I hear the same piteous note: I wont let you go! In this stunning collection of poems by Nobel laureate Rabindranath Tagore, acclaimed translator Ketaki Kushari Dyson brilliantly captures the energy and lyricism of the legendary poets verses. The title poem evokes the inner turmoil of a man who must return to the drudgery of work after visiting his home for the Durga Puja vacation. Haunted by his four-year-old daughters parting words, I wont let you go! he finds his anguish reflected in the vagaries of nature, with the earth echoing his pain. The other poems in this collection brim with Tagores compassionate humanity and delicate sensuousness. From detailing the nuances of intimate relationships to ruminating on the vast cosmos, these poems glow with a burning awareness of mans place in the universe, reaffirming Tagores reputation as one of Indias greatest modern poets.

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Editorial Review

Review

'Dyson has succeeded in these new translations in restoring a sense to the reader of Tagore's real and remarkable genius as a poet. Short of learning Bengali one does not see how our sense of him as a poet could be bettered than it is by reading her versions. Her own skills and her own personality of course play a large part - One has the feeling of hearing Tagore's voice, as one hears that of any other great poet - an excellent end glossary of technical terms - if any translation can put Tagore back on the map where he belongs, this one should do it.' - Poetry Review. 'In her effort to lift Tagore's persona out of the shadows of mysticism, and present the poet his rightful place in the realm of contemporary poetry, Ketaki Kushari Dyson surpasses her aim - For all those who value good poetry, the book delivers more than it promises. It is vintage Tagore - It is not often that one comes across work of such calibre - ' - The Indian P.E.N. (Bombay) 'Among the English translations available of Tagore's poetry, Ketaki Kushari Dyson's selection I Won't Let You Go perhaps captures more successfully than any other the sensuous Bengaliess of Tagore's works, and the particularity of the weather, both inner and outer, in which the poems exist.' - London Review of Books.

About the Author

Born in 1861, Rabindranath Tagore was a key figure of the Bengal Renaissance. He was a household name in Bengal as a poet, a songwriter, a playwright, an essayist, a short story writer and a novelist. In 1913 he was awarded the Nobel Prize for Literature and his verse collection *Gitanjali* came to be known internationally. Tagore was a pioneering literary figure, renowned for his ceaseless innovations in poetry, prose, drama, music and painting, which he took up late in life. His works include novels; plays; essays on religious, social and literary topics; some sixty collections of verse; over a hundred short stories; and more than 2500 songs, including the national anthems of India and Bangladesh. He died in 1941.

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Carmel Smith:

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