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The Power of Dreaming

Pramod Rastogi

Emeritus Professor, Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Lausanne (EPFL), CH-1015 Lausanne, Switzerland.

I was walking up the street.
There I saw a boy collecting
Coins from people.
I gave him three coins
And asked what he would do
With the basket full of coins
He now had.

He said he would build
A high tower with these coins
Piled one on top of the other
Until it was as high as a pine tree,
And climb it by its swaying steps
To seek the soul of this frenetic city.

Age is low and flames are high,
And a cargo of work lay ahead
In view of fulfilling his dream
And that of his eccentric dolls
As it had touched in them
A magical chord, to dream and own
Their homes in this tower.

The tower might tremble,
The floors aloft might fall,
But the legacy of their dreams
Will live on in the power of dreaming.

Bio:

Pramod Rastogi is an Emeritus Professor at the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Lausanne (EPFL), Switzerland. He is a Member of the Swiss Academy of Engineering



Sciences. He is the 2014 recipient of the SPIE Dennis Gabor Award. He is a Fellow of the Society of Photographic Instrumentation Engineers (SPIE), a Fellow of the Optical Society of America (OSA), and a Distinguished Fellow of the Optical Society of India (OSI). He was Editor-in-chief of the International Journal of Optics and Lasers in Engineering (Elsevier) between 1999 and 2019. He was an honorary Professor at the IIT Delhi between 2000 and 2004. He was a guest Professor at the IIT Gandhinagar between 2019 and 2023. He is presently an honorary adjunct Professor at the IIT Jammu.