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## Bride

Dr. Siraj Fatma

Don't like (the touch)

That makes me uncomfortable

The voice that tears me inside

The gaze that burns me

The expression that makes me panic

The smell that asphyxiates me

Don't like (to go)

Where I'm an alien

A thing for show case

A thing for amusement

Without desires, without feelings

Without tongue, without mind

But with a tag of "BRIDE"

No identity but a fake identity

A Bride, who is free to breathe,

But not accordingly

Free to laugh but not spontaneously

Free to talk but not to all

Free to love but without will.

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Don't like (the tag)

That snatches my celibacy

Makes me alien within my identity

Makes me panic within myself

Want to fly not so high but freely,

Not occasionally but spontaneously.

Wish to have (the tag)

With passionate love and honest tongue

That heals my soul

Releases the storm of my mind

Gives me a real identity of a Woman, a Wife, and a Bride.

## Bio:

Dr. Siraj Fatma is an esteemed Assistant Professor of English language and literature with a specialization in contemporary Women writers. Her scholarly work focuses on the intersectionality of gender, culture, and identity in modern society. As a writer and researcher, she explores the nuances of women's experiences, challenging societal norms and advocating for gender equality.