

# Pronobi Gogoi's Poems

## **If you've lost the forest**

If you've lost the forest  
You can create one  
You can pave a path by parting the hair  
You can cool your bosom with a gust of breeze  
Dreams can skip over from one heart to another  
In the green valley of words.

If you've lost the forest  
Amid the clouds of peevishness  
The flute of the heart may begin to lilt  
The river may overflow with foam and froth  
As in the prime of monsoon.

Dawn may be abuzz  
With the cadent warbling of birds  
The shilly-shallying flowers may bloom  
In the localities of ideal love.

The somnolent forest beyond the bedroom window  
May become a graceful and familiar compound  
The hours may become ritzy  
May become fickle beauty parlours  
Pearls or diamonds may glow up.

The town may merge with the colours of the lips  
The balmy moonlight shall smile dilly-dallying  
If you've lost the forest  
The organic inorganic vision of life may take shape  
Your world may spring up  
With a veil of coloured lustre

## **Come let's be dodos**

I came here from that hill  
On a bird's beak  
Becoming a tree one day I embraced the green  
The sapling laughed

For days together  
I haven't been able to take a deep breath  
In the concrete jungle  
The passage of my breath has grown toxic  
From the gas dust smoke  
The sound of traffic passing by me  
Day and night

Many a day has passed since I last beheld the sky

I've been scouring for the blue sky  
Only the flock of birds know  
On my very bosom they raise hubbubs  
The woman with dreams said  
Come let's be that green hill  
Come let's be a downpour  
Let's be a river come  
Come let's be dodos  
Come—

*Translated by* **Krishna Dulal Barua**

**Pronobi Gogoi** is an Assamese poet based in Duliajan, Tinsukia. She has published three collection of poems.

**Krishna Dulal Barua** is a prominent translator and writer based in Nagaon, Assam. He received the Katha Award for translation in 2005.