

मेघदूतं - कालिदास

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कञ्चित् Some(one) [Yaksha]

कान्ताविरहगुरुणा weighed down with the difficulty of viraha, separation from a loved one (kanta)

स्वाधिकारात्प्रमत्तः Unable to carry out his tasks

शापेनास्तंगमितमहिमा His strength/greatness lost by the curse

वर्षभोग्येण भर्तुः year long separation?

यक्षश्चक्रे ?

जनकतनया Sita's [Janaka's daughter]

स्नानपुण्योदकेषु bathing place

स्निग्धच्छायातरुषु soft/gentle shadow of a tree

वसतिम् stays

रमगिर्याश्रमेषु at Ramagiri Ashram

*Cursed for his misdeeds,
Stripped of strength,
a year separated from his lover,
our Yasksha mopes under the gentle tree shade,
in Ramagiri, where Sita bathed.*

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तस्मिन्नद्रौ At the peak of the mountain [Supposedly चित्रकूट]

कतिचिदबला the one left weak [the helpless one = lover]

विप्रयुक्तः deprived of

स कामि that Yaksha who is sensual

नीत्वा मासान् After/spending many months

कनकवलयभ्रंश Gold armlet slips [from]

रिक्तप्रकोष्ठः weakened arm

आषाढस्य प्रथमदिवसे First day of Ashadha

मेघः cloud [megha]
आश्रित्तुषानुं embracing the mountain top [सानु]
वप्र [against river] bank
क्रीडापरिणतगज elephant playing by bending down
प्रेक्षणीयं appealing to the eye
ददर्श To him [Yaksha] appears

*There, atop a mountain,
The months of separation from his helpless beloved,
Causing his frame to be so weakened,
That his golden armlet from his forearm slips!
Our Yaksha sees the first Rainclouds of Ashadha,
Embracing the mountain top,
A lonesome elephant, playfully butting against the riverbank.*

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तस्य स्थित्वा Standing thus (in remorse)
कथमपि पुरः Somehow, in front of him is
कौतुगाधानहेतु That which creates (आधान) longing (कौतुक) [in the mind]
अन्तर्बाष्पश्चिरम् Trying to control inner tears -
अनुचरः राजराजस्य -servant of Kuber [Yaksha]
दध्यौ upon this, he stands thinking:
मेघालोके भवति As looking at the cloud creates/induces
सुखिनोऽप्यन्यथावृत्ति चेतः in otherwise happy (सुखि) people's minds are moved
कण्ठाश्लेषप्रणयिनि Those yearning to embrace the necks of their lovers
दूरसंस्थे situated at the distance
जने किं पुनः Of them then what?

*Beholding this sight,
This servant of Kubera,
Is struck by emotion,
Even as he stems his anguish:
This sight of the Raincloud,
induces such emotion even in those at peace,
What then must be his state,
He who is so distantly separated from-,
-Though wishing to embrace the neck of-, his beloved?*

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प्रत्यासन्ने Thereafter, after Ashadha

नभासि In Sravana, the rainy season {Malli}

दयिताजीवितालम्बनार्थं He being anxious to 'extend'/support his wife's life

जीमूतेन The carrier of water, the cloud

स्वकुशलमयीं Tidings of his well being

हारयिष्यन्प्रवृत्तिम् To send the news

स He,

प्रत्यग्रैः कुटजकुसुमैः Offered freshly fallen Kutaja flowers

कल्पितार्घाय To whom the offering (अर्घ्य) is made, the raincloud

तस्मै प्रीतः प्रीतिप्रमुखवचनं [Welcomed] using sweet words

स्वागतं व्याजहार spoke [व्याजहार] welcoming words [to the cloud]

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धूमज्योतिः Smoke, light

सलिलमरुताम् Water, wind

संनिपातः क्व मेघः Where is such a cloud made of/composed of the above

संदेशार्था क्व And where is the message!

पटुकरणैः The instrument/organ possessing intelligence/competence

प्राणिभिः प्रापणीयाः Beings possessing the above organs

इति उत्सुक्त्वात् Excited by (the idea of sending the message)

अपरिगणयन् Not taking into account

गुह्यकः तं He [Yaksha]

ययाचे Asked [the cloud]

कामार्ता हि Those suffering from love

प्रकृतिकृपणा Are wretched and hence unable to-

चेतनाचेतनेषु -distinguish those with and without the ability for thought

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जातं वंशे [The world knows that] Born in families
भुवनविदिते पुष्करावर्तकानां The world knows that- to these two families
जनामि तां I know this
प्रकृतिपुरुषां You powerful being
कामरूपं You can take the shape you desire
मघोनः ministers of Indra
तेनार्थित्वं त्वयि If you apply that meaning to you, in that sense
विधिवशाद्दूर बन्धुर्गतोऽहं Me being separated from my lover
याच्चा मोघा Though it might be fruitless
वरममधिगुणे Due to your stature
नाधमे Lower people (non great)
लब्धकामा Even if it is succesful

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सनत्तानां त्वमसि We who are suffering from separation
शरणं तत्पयोद You are our savior
प्रियायाः to my loved one
सदेशः मे हर Take my message
धनपतिक्रोधविश्लेषितस्य Afflicted by Kubera's anger
गन्तव्या ते Go there
वसतिरलका नाम to the place named Alaka
यक्षेश्वराणां where Yakshas live
बाह्य उद्यानस्थितहरशिरश्चन्द्रिका [that home] that is lit by moonlight Garden in which
धौतहर्म्या Shining white homes

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त्वामारूढं As you go up
पवनपदवी Path of the wind
उद्गृहीतालकान्ताः Braided hair of women waiting for their husband's return
प्रेक्षिष्यन्ते Those waiting-
पथिकवनिताः -wives of traveling men

प्रत्ययात् from this experience
आश्वसत्यः they are assured [of husbands returning home]
कः संनद्धे When you appear and get ready (for work)
विरहविधुरां Those [wives = जायां] afflicted by विरह
त्वय्युपेक्षेत जायां those neglected
न स्याद् अन्यः अपि अहमिव no others like me
जनो यः पराधीनवृत्तिः who am dependent on someone else

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मन्दं मन्दं नुदति पवनश्चानुकूलो Slowly the tailwind moves
यथां त्वां वामश्चायं नदति On your left
मधुतं चातकस्ते सगन्धः The Chataka birds proudly sing behind you
गर्भाधान क्षण The moment of pleasure/ literally impregnation of birds
परिचयाम् नूनम् आवध्दमालाः (Standing in lines)[Clouds are attributed to inducing the period of gestation in birds]
सेविष्यन्ते नयनसुभगं Experiencing this enjoyment
खे भवन्तं बलाकाः in the sky, are the cranes

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प्रभवति कर्तुं यच्च You enable/induce
महीम् उच्छ्रिलीन्ध्राम् अवन्ध्यां The growth of mushrooms on the fertile [अवन्ध्यां] ground
तच्छ्रुत्वा ते श्रवणसुभगं गर्जितं Hearing this pleasant sounding thunder
मानसोत्काः to Manasa lake [swans will travel]
आ कैलासात् Until Kailasa mountaints
विसकिसलयत् छेदपाथेयवन्तः The lotus stalks, packed as food for the journey
संपत्स्यन्ते नभसि Till the end of the journey, in the sky-
भवतो राजहंसाः सहायाः The swans will accompany.