POETRY

BECOMING LIGHTNING

Elnaz Shahnavazi

This poem represents a dictatorial landscape, where the wind symbolizes authority and the clouds symbolize people whom the authority tightly controls, making decisions on their behalf. The consequences of this control lead to the ruin of the entire universe.

Passing through, floor on floor,
Like glaciers on the North Pole
Too heavy to be held
A layer of clouds
Floating
lotus on a pond
Waiting for the right time

As time passed
Moving got tough
They wish to be as light as before
wanting to evacuate themselves on the ground
Yet they were not allowed

Soldiers mad at the plan
The wind does lead
They trust the wind
But wind well knows how to trick

Madness makes them black and grown
They yell to each other
We need a cleaning.
The anger pervades the spirits
Clouds start shouting
bawls become lightning

Wind says no, not here
A better land
Don't waste your wealth
in this hopeless land
I push you miles and miles
Wind warns the place is wrong

And a few seconds later…
Clouds bursting
Chaos overcoming
Evacuation commencing
Mad clouds uniting together
Defeat the wind.

Babel in skies
Terrified earthlings
curse the rain.
But the guilty one was hidden in the air
Controlling has explosive consequences
Happy clouds
Get light and clean.

But what happened to the ground?

Author's Note

Elnaz Shahnavazi is a 28-year-old student from the south of Iran, studying English Literature at Azad University of Tehran. Since she started writing poetry, she has been inspired by nature and often uses natural events to represent human experiences. Elnaz loves themes of darkness and fantasy. She focuses on storytelling, monologue, and dialogue in a poetic form to uncover lessons that resonate with the human experience.