

Twilight Chimes

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Introduction

Welcome to a landscape painted in twilight hues, where the air is heavy with the scent of night-jasmine and the silence is broken only by the lingering, silvery chime of anklets.

This collection is a collision of three profound emotional worlds: the intoxicating, almost hypnotic allure of an unforgettable muse; the fierce, unyielding resilience of a mother weathering life's most violent storms; and the bittersweet beauty of a love so deep that its ultimate expression is surrender. It is the story of a wandering bumblebee captivated by a radiant flame—a flame that is admired, fiercely protected, but never contained.

These pages explore the paradox of true devotion. We are often taught that love is about possessing, holding on, and claiming what is ours. Yet, within these verses, love is the conscious choice to step into the shadows so that the beloved may walk freely in the sun. It is a tribute to a woman who is not just a delicate flower, but a crashing ocean wave and an immortal heroine.

As you read these poems, allow the vivid colors, the rich scents of petrichor and musk, and the echoing sounds to wash over you. May you find beauty in the quiet ache of letting go, and strength in the vibrant memory of the ones who leave an indelible mark on our souls.

1. The Flute and the Dawn

*In amber twilight where my wild thoughts take flight,
You are my crimson dawn, my blinding golden sight.
Diamond, my heart is caught in your sweet-scented snare,
Without your silver anklets chiming, the silent world is bare.
Your beautiful form plays a mellow flute's tune,
Pulling my wandering eyes beneath the milky-white moon.
No scent of night-jasmine blooms in the breathless air,
Unless you are near, my sukumali, fragrant and fair.
My soul is wrapped in your vanilla-warm embrace,
Lost in the rhythmic hum and the starlight of your face.*

2. The Bumblebee and the Shadows

*I am a bumblebee drawn to your neon-orange fire,
Caught in a fragrant web of familiar, deep desire.
Your rhythmic dance drives me wild, a loud, untethered sound,
Where the petrichor of wet earth is always softly found.
Yet, if you find no joy in my dimly lit, shadowed room,
Go seek the silver beams where the sweet jasmine blooms.
Don't make excuses, don't let a whispered doubt spout,
Even as the violet spark in my own heart goes out.
I will melt in your absence, like grey smoke fading away,
If your chiming, golden steps wander from my garden today.*

3. The Empty Embrace

*My heart is wrapped so close to your rose-scented soul,
Where azure skies lean and bright, sparkling heavens unroll.
Through loud, amber days and dark nights that slowly depart,
I remain deeply entangled, for you hold my beating heart.
But if you find new joy beneath a different starlight's trace,
If the ties of this ringing love must leave this beautiful place,
If you never return to my quiet, empty embrace,
May you find all you seek, bathed in golden joy's grace.
You will remain my most beautiful, pearl-tinted gleam,
A sweet-smelling flower by a buzzing bee seen in a dream.*