

Down Town

(Bungalows
And huts

Huts and foot-paths
Leading to enamelled roads.
Tropical palms
Along Ambas-Bay
Lampstands
Yellow bulbs
Standing
In a rainy day.

Aprophet enters!)
Oh when the kisses of the morning tide
Fill Victoria's sandy shores and wide
The tender neck of her foliage green
Meanders in the oceanic gales grin.
The gorgeous rays of equatorial lands
Make tangential leaps, create rain-bow bands,
Light the enamelled roads for working men.
Here and there a horn like from a lion's den
Cautions the morning rush to a road's end.
Here and there jocunds sound from friend to friend.

Oh when kisses of evening tide
Fill Victoria's shores white and wide,
Gentle ladies to dutiful calls aspire ;
Fast to their toilets they all retire ;
To wear a wig, smear a face, or perform
Some other duty-make another reform.

The daily carnival with drinking revived
(For no industry ever so perfectly strived
Like this to which we are all consigned)
They assemble and gaily sip of blood-red
Wine, sifered scum from raw corn made
Young men, black beared
Breasts, sun and junk!
Talents under the skirts
The sun and the night
(And so what ?)

Then hand to hand they return whispering.
Then hand to hand they return Whispering:

My dear Baby dear.
My life, My all
To night's Thursday
The morn's is Friday.
(Another kiss
Another smile
Agiggle
Adead laugh
Money,
Food And wine.)

Athick fog spreads itself like a holy veil
Over the dormant roofs, this holy dell
And on it the diffused rays of the moon
Fall and reflected, show their virtuous bloom.
Early cars sweeping an open street
Awake the sleeping folk: they arise to meet
The bitter deluges of lavishing heaven.

Another whisper
A retreat
A hiss of the door
As shraw
The rising sun
Another day.

By Vincent TITANJI.

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