



Poem

You Cannot Know the Fears I Have

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you cannot know the fears i have
as i think about you
i fear that i shall live only at your laughter
lie awake long nights while you sleep
so loneliness does not trouble you
nor hunger, nor thirst
overwhelm your waking world with wonder
with the music of other worlds, your earlier home
read to you poems written the night before
while you smiled bewildered
or just when my very breathing begins to depend on you
even as your tiny fingers close around mine
some insensitive thing
crushes your butterfly spirit
shadows of a sun-darkened land
flow over you
and the eclipse
closes your eyes
i cannot live with the thought of having you, loving you
any other way
a day without such care
has no meaning
we shall find for you a name
your name shall bring light

by Shabbir Banoobhai

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