

Još Malīhābādī: *Ye kaun uttha hai sharmata*
Who has arisen shyly

translated by Jenn Rainey

Ye kaun uttha hai sharmata¹ rein² ka jagha³, neend⁴ ka mata⁵
Neend ka mata, dhoom macchata anghtaraian leta⁶, bal khata⁷
Ye kaun uttha hai sharmata?

Who has arisen shyly
Awake in the night, intoxicated with sleep
Intoxicated with sleep, causing a disturbance
Stretching, twisting
Who has arisen shyly?

Rokh⁸ par marki⁹, ankh mein jadoo bhini bhini¹⁰ bar mein khushbu
Banki¹¹ chatun¹², shamte¹³ abru niche nazari kabhre¹⁴ ghesu¹⁵
Ye kaun uttha hai sharmata?

Flushed face, magic in the eye
A soft body and fragrant
A wanton appearance, a furrowed brow
A lowered gaze, scattered hair
Who has arisen shyly?

Nind ka haren¹⁶ Ganga Jamni jalar¹⁷ ka niche halki halki¹⁸
Anchal¹⁹ dralka²⁰, maski²¹ sari halki mehendi, dhunari²² bindi
Ye kaun uttha hai sharmata?

Waves of sleep, the Ganga, the Yamuna

¹ To be shy

² Night

³ Awake

⁴ Sleep

⁵ Intoxication

⁶ To stretch, yawn

⁷ To twist

⁸ Face

⁹ Rouge

¹⁰ Mild

¹¹ Wanton

¹² Appearance

¹³ Furrowed

¹⁴ Scattered

¹⁵ Locks (of hair)

¹⁶ Waves

¹⁷ Skin

¹⁸ Light

¹⁹ End of the dupatta or sari

²⁰ To fall

²¹ Torn or stretched

²² Blurry, smudged

Luminous glow from beneath the skin
A fallen dupatta, a stretched sari
Faded mendhi, a blurry bindi
Who has arisen shyly?

*Druba²³ hua rokh, tabani²⁴ mein azuar²⁵ sahar²⁶ pasheani²⁷ mein
Ye aab gheher²⁸ tafiani²⁹ mein Ye chand ka makhtara³⁰ pani mein
Ye kaun uttha hai sharmata?*

A round face, full of splendor
The luster of daybreak on the forehead
The jewel in a deluge of water
This moon-like face in the water
Who has arisen shyly?

*Rokhsar par mojh³¹ rangini! Kacchi chandi, sacchi chini
Ankhon mein taqhushan³² khud bini³³ makhtare par seher ki sheremini³⁴
Ye kaun uttha hai sharmata?*

Color washes over the face
raw silver, fine sugar
In the eyes the impression of seeing oneself
In the eye the sweetness of daybreak
Who has arisen shyly?

*Ankh mein ghatan³⁵ asharat³⁶ gha hain nind ki sansen³⁷ jaisa aahen
Bakhari³⁸ zafain³⁹ asarian⁴⁰ ba hain jan se marain jan ko chahain
Ye kaun uttha hai sharmata?*

In her eye a wallowing gaiety
The breath of sleep just like a sigh
Scattered locks of hair and naked limbs
These kill whomever they want
Who has arisen shyly?

²³ Round

²⁴ Splendor

²⁵ Luster

²⁶ Daybreak

²⁷ Forehead

²⁸ Jewel

²⁹ Deluge, flood

³⁰ Face

³¹ Wave

³² Impression

³³ To see

³⁴ Sweetness

³⁵ Wallowing

³⁶ Gaiety

³⁷ Breath

³⁸ Spread out

³⁹ Locks (of hair)

⁴⁰ Nude

*Phela phela⁴¹ ankh mein kajaI uljha uljha⁴² zulf ka badal⁴³
Nazak⁴⁴ ghardan, phulsi mehekhal⁴⁵ surak⁴⁶ pupta⁴⁷ nind se bojhal⁴⁸
Ye kaun uttha hai sharmata?*

Spread through the eye, kajaI
A tangled cloud of hair
Delicate neck, flower-like contours
Reddened eyelids, heavy from sleep
Who has arisen shyly?

*Kucch jagh rahi, kucch soti hai har mojh saba⁴⁹ manar dhoti hai
Bashustar⁵⁰ rokh ya moti hai anghtaraai se jazbaz⁵¹ hoti hai
Ye kaun uttha hai sharmata?*

Half awake and half asleep
Each wave of early morning breeze washes her face
Is it an unchaste face or a pearl?
Vexed from stretching
Who has arisen shyly?

*Chahar⁵² phika⁵³ nind ka mare phike pan⁵⁴ mein shahd⁵⁵ ke dhal re
Jo bhi dheke jan ko dare dharti⁵⁶ mata bojh sahare⁵⁷
Ye kaun uttha hai sharmata?*

A wan face from lack of sleep
In this unpleasantness, streams of honey
Those who see her would give themselves for her
The Mother Earth bears the weight
Who has arisen shyly?

Halchal mein dil ki basti⁵⁸ tufan djinn mein hasti⁵⁹ hai

⁴¹ Spread through

⁴² Mixed up

⁴³ Cloud

⁴⁴ Delicate

⁴⁵ Contours

⁴⁶ Redness

⁴⁷ Eyelid

⁴⁸ Heavy

⁴⁹ Early morning breeze

⁵⁰ Uncultured, unchaste

⁵¹ Vexed

⁵² Face

⁵³ Wan

⁵⁴ Unpleasantness

⁵⁵ Honey

⁵⁶ Earth

⁵⁷ To bear the weight

⁵⁸ Village

⁵⁹ Being

Ankh mein shab⁶⁰ ki masti hai aur masti dil ko dasti⁶¹ hai
Ye kaun uttha hai sharmata?

In this disturbance, there is a village of the heart
In the storm of djinns, a sense of being
In the eyes, the mischievousness of the night
And this mischievousness stings the heart
Who has arisen shyly?

⁶⁰ Night

⁶¹ To sting