ALONE

by Prakash Kona

The thing about aloneness is that it demands you imagine
someone lonelier than you,
One can be morbidly alone without being in a state of want,
But the loneliness of those in want is about deprivation,
To be deprived is to border a state of insanity
which happens with prolonged periods of non-belonging;
One can again feel that he or she belongs nowhere
despite inhabiting a space of your own,
The spirit demands that one does not belong but the flesh knows better,
it knows that as much as it could suffer,
The knowledge that all belonging is pointless,
the security of not lying on a street at night
With no hope that the day will be any different,
Is how reality will be defined though not in abstract, philosophical terms;
That is the platform on which Hegel will battle Marx,
To the Hegelian, aloneness is about human condition,
To Marx, it is a condition of exploitation whose causes are social
But whose solution is spiritual because it recognizes
that the material world cannot be owned,
The loneliness of the homeless is a social condition,
To create a world without loneliness
is to create a world without the class system
A world where the sharing of the fruits of labor will collectively liberate humanity
because the notion of individual liberation
That does not take the liberation of the one lying on the street into consideration,
Is both a myth and a lie.