

***Nature and I* by Radhey Shiam Edited by Rama Kant, Amazon Digital Services
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Edited posthumously by his son Rama Kant, Radhey Shiam's *Nature and I* delves deeply into the poet's intellectual and spiritual relationship with nature. Radhey Shiam depicts nature as both heavenly and transformational, drawing inspiration from the Haiku tradition and the Danish mystic Sunyata. PCK Prem's preface skilfully conveys the poet's conviction in the Supreme Spirit's omnipresence and the function of nature in purifying and uplifting the soul. The collection honours nature as the best teacher, revealing the wonders and delights of life. It is a timeless work of lyrical spirituality that teaches humility, love, and surrender to the divine. The Editor's Note presents Late Radhey Shiam's distinctive lyrical invention, the Triveni Metre, and exquisitely demonstrates his deep connection to nature. It reflects his spiritual journey and the timeless relevance of his work, *Nature and I*.

There are ten of Sri Radhey Shiam's poems in the anthology. Through nature, the poem "God and I" delves deeply into spirituality and the relationship between humans and the divine. Metaphysical insights are interwoven with striking images of peace, love, and enlightenment. The poet explores the core of life by fusing universal truths with introspection. The recurrent motif of heavenly light and kindness represents inner awakening and transcendence. It honours the soul's path to oneness with the limitless in the end. 'Life and I' explores the human experience of overcoming spiritual awakenings and life's challenges. It skilfully compares the transient charm of materialism with the eternal comfort of moral rectitude and divine grace. The poet considers the transformational potential of spiritual knowledge, sin, and repentance. It emphasises the value of living in the now while embracing humility and integrity via striking images and reflection. In the end, the poem offers a deep reflection on the transient nature of existence and the never-ending pursuit of inner serenity.

A close link between the poet and environment is revealed in the poem 'Nature and I', highlighting the nurturing and transforming characteristics of the natural world. In times of despair, nature is represented as a celestial force that guides, comforts, and enlightens. The poet reflects on how the eternal harmony of nature represents the life cycle from conception to death. The steadfast compassion and care of nature, especially during times of separation, promotes a

sense of peace and connectedness. It emphasises how very wise and beautiful nature is, and how it may inspire sentiments of trust and fulfilment. The poet extols the ageless cycle of nature and calls for harmony with it as a source of joy, peace, and spiritual enlightenment.

The poem 'Soul and Life' explores the human soul's enormous journey, its difficulties, and its link to divine grace. It examines how the body is elevated above worldly sins and guided through adversity by the knowledge of the soul. The poet reflects on the duality of life—spirit and flesh—and finds comfort in spiritual contact and repentance. The soul enjoys inner pleasure, peace, and illumination via the presence of God. The poems honour the soul's tenacity in the face of adversity, its desire for love, and its eventual ascent into eternal. It is a spiritual journey characterised by oneness with the divine and self-discovery.

The deep connection between the soul and the eternal beauty of life is celebrated in the poem 'The Eternal Beauty and I'. The poet discovers peace in the invisible, where splendour and happiness are brought about by beauty that emerges like a bride. Mortal and immortal worlds mingle together as the universe's music reverberates in the soul. Words and creativity soar to celestial heights, adding elegance and meaning to existence. The poet is delighted by the way that the cycles of nature—dawn, dusk, day, and night—mirror everlasting grandeur. Divine whispers provide delight and serenity to the longing spirit, while both hidden and obvious beauty stimulate creativity.

The poem 'You and My Life' portrays life as a journey led by God's love and exhibits a profound feeling of devotion and heavenly connection. By guiding people through hardships with faith, the speaker presents God's presence as a source of consolation, illumination, and cleansing. The lyrics highlight selflessness and spiritual development while emphasising thankfulness, humility, and devotion to others. The speaker's life is transformed by divine direction, which finally brings serenity, pleasure, and contentment, as seen by the recurrent theme of compassion and mercy. The speaker's commitment to God gains direction and purpose because of these encounters.

The poem 'You and Nature' personifies nature as a caring and nurturing force, eloquently describing a close connection with it. The speaker's spirit finds solace, healing, and delight in the moon, flowers, and seasons. The ever-present presence of nature illuminates life with divine grace and provides safety during trying times. The embrace of nature humbles and blesses the speaker, transforming them on an emotional and spiritual level. Even in the darkest times, there is a deep feeling of thankfulness for nature's capacity to provide light. In general, the poem honours the ability of nature's love to give life and to redeem.

The poem ‘You Come to Me’ conveys a tremendous sensation of desire and expectation for a close relationship with a loving or holy presence. With the hope that it may illuminate their inner darkness, the speaker embraces its presence in their life. Free from the world's distractions, the speaker invites nature, or the divine, into their spirit. As the speaker lets their whole self be known and accepted, this connection is both personal and transforming. In the end, the poem illustrates the joy of letting love and light into one's life and finding comfort in emotional or spiritual company.

The speaker in the poem ‘You Do Before Me’ is very appreciative of a heavenly presence that fortifies and saves their soul. This presence, which offers love, forgiveness, and everlasting pleasure, elevates the speaker from sin and darkness with grace and compassion. The speaker admits that their heart has changed, purified by praying tears and heavenly touch. The presence is shown as a guiding force that brings trust and tranquilly throughout. The speaker finds comfort in the loving care that surpasses worldly hardships and rejoices in the heavenly kindness. The poem masterfully expresses themes of love, spiritual sustenance, and salvation. In the poem ‘You Speak in Silence,’ the speaker experiences a profound spiritual rebirth and finds joy in being near the holy. The poem concludes by praising the transformational potential of the holy part of the soul. At a close, spiritual encounter, the speaker accepts a supernatural presence into their heart that conveys deep knowledge, love, and peacefulness in the quiet. As the heavenly presence soothes and provides their spirit, the speaker feels a deep sense of rejuvenation and contentment. The poem highlights the power of silent communication through the kind and recognising exchange of quiet moments.

Therefore, Radhey Shiam's *Nature and I* is an immortal collection that skilfully merges nature, spirituality, and a divine connection. The poems reveal major insights into the human journey for higher consciousness as they investigate issues of inner quiet, love, and atonement. Using powerful imagery and rich lyrical depth, Radhey Shiam portrays nature as a nurturing force that guides the soul and provides solace in times of darkness. The collection demonstrates the poet's distinctive style and his close relationship with God. The timeless dance between nature and the human soul, elegance, and humility are all celebrated in this book.