

**The Scream of Silence**

Mahmood Nafisi

**For Correspondence:**

Mahmood Nafisi

Email: [mahmood.nafisi@gmail.com](mailto:mahmood.nafisi@gmail.com)

Submitted: July 25, 2020

Accepted: September 18, 2020



Standing alone-  
No voice to whisper,  
And no ear to unveil secrets of misery-  
When feeling bereft for a sensation of an  
embrace.

Only mask ...  
Shielding the withered face from the sorrow  
of grief



Grief for the presence of passerby  
whooshing to reach home at dusk.  
And the wind bestowing  
The sound of high heels.  
Those expectant eyes reckless of measuring  
their distances  
When saying "Sorry" with a vacant smile.

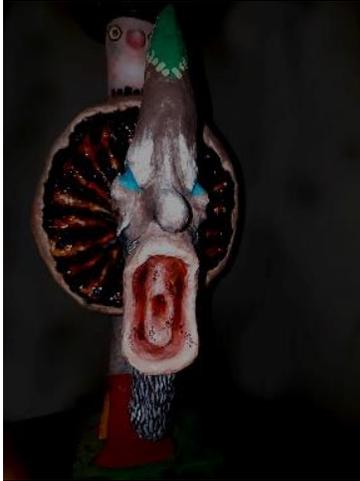


Before vanishing on this silent journey  
I wore red sneakers  
And sang within me tenaciously.  
My footsteps were the only distance  
Between the forsaken shadows of my silence.



I grieve-  
Grief for roaming in a room the size of  
nostalgia  
Gazing at the walls-  
Imagining the abandoned stairway.

I hear a voice yelling ...  
"Do not go far  
Forget about the hollow streets,  
The workers, acquaintances, or-".



I ask the voice "Who are you"?  
The voice says, "I am you", "hasten your  
farewell".



"But wait! How could we be one"?  
I said to the voice with much contemplation.

"I still have the key to my past  
And a mirror to envision tomorrow  
I can wear my red sneakers  
And slog over the dusted window  
To plant arts in the garden of grief".

"What do you say"? I asked the voice.



In a tick of silence  
The little bird suddenly hovered from within  
me  
And perched on my shoulders  
More tense than my hands.



No matter how far it flies,  
Or how deeply it screams-  
we will live to tell the tale of our narratives.



#### Author Bio:

**Mahmood Nafisi** is a Toronto based artist. He holds an M.A. in directing animation from Tarbiat Modares University (TMU) in Tehran, Iran, and a B.A. in Handicraft. Upon completion of his BA, Mahmood launched his career in sculpture and delicate jewelries, using techniques including casting, centrifuge, and scratching on silver, aluminum, and bronze. He presented his art at several exhibitions in Iran. His multifaceted artistic talent landed him a faculty position where he taught a course in animation using 2D techniques while making various animated commercials, TV series, and short animation films.

Mr. Nafisi has received number of awards including:

- 1) *Best Golden Medal* (Golden Butterfly) in the Best Short Animated Film category

- 2) *International Festival of Films for Children and Young Adults*, in Iran
- 3) 10<sup>th</sup> Place in *America's Cartoon Contest* (Be Tobacco Free) in US
- 4) Nominee for the *Best Television Short Animation Films*, Jam-e-Jam Festival, in Iran.

In 2016, Mr. Nafisi relocated to Canada. Upon his arrival, he created motion graphics projects at York University, Humber College, and Solange Art Studio, while hosting his art exhibition in Toronto in 2019. In 2020, he graduated in Computer 3D animation from Sheridan College.

As the COVID-19 pandemic resulted in the temporary closure of gaming and animation industries, Mr. Nafisi continued to improve his knowledge in animation software, while expressing his experiences social distancing through painting, statue making and poetry.

Copyright: ©2020 Nafisi, M. This is an open-access article distributed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution License, which permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original author and source are credited.