



Jhilam Chattaraj
Cloud-messenger

Banished
like the yakṣa*,
she pined frail for plum-nights;
meghadūta* poured his sweet sweat—
sangam*.



Jhilam Chattaraj
Blue-God

In spring
their bodies rise
to a petal-stained sky.
Nights birth myths—the blue-god, his spell,
his flute.

yakṣa*: The banished slave in the Sanskrit poem, 'Meghadūtam,' by Kālidāsā. For reference: Kālidāsā: for the 21st Century Reader, Translated by Mani Rao, Aleph Book Company, New Delhi, 2014.

Meghadūta**: Cloud-messenger.

Sangam***: Confluence or Meeting.