THE SONG OF FEAR

Why do you loathe me? Why do you abhor me? Why do you curse me? Why do you suppose That I did the wrong? How do you infer That I made the life difficult?

Is there any evidence That it is because of me, That people don't venture out In the middle of the night?

Do you believe That it is because of me, That the kids are scared Of vampires and ghosts?

How do you surmise That it is because of me, That the lovers are helpless To have a rendezvous?

Are you really convinced That it is because of me, That cold war is brewing Among the neighbouring nations?

How can I prove my innocence?

Don't you feel That the governments Would have forgotten people's cause If I don't haunt them?

Don't you think That the communities Wouldn't have stopped fighting But for me?

Don't you accept

That the people Don't bother about their lives If I am not part of theirs?

Don't you understand That the youth dishonour Their parents and teachers If I am not there?

Don't you agree That the couples Cheat on their partners If I don't exist?

> Even then-If you still feel, That I am guilty... Here I go!"

Then-In the very next moment, The whole world Cried in one voice, "Don't Go 'Fear'! Please Don't Go!"

> - **B. Maria Kumar** (India)