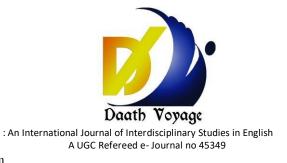


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Draupadi

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Where were you

when those malign hands,

reached for my sari,

dragged me amidst the court,

and tore apart my dignity.

I pleaded to your deaf ears.

'Pati' was parmeshwara

I was told; the provider, the protector

And I had five,

Who failed me, and

Gambled my destiny.

Bhishma, your wisdom

Crippled with your wow

Could do nothing

Vishnu even you

Waited for me to beg

To raise my hands and urge

Just to keep your glory intact

But, today I Draupadi



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Questions your conduct

And all those mute spectators of

My charred identity.