

Sept 11 1986

### My Birth.

A thousand years have passed since I was born:  
No need to know the month. In the pitch black  
Where centuries have buried womanhood  
A mother who gave birth, poor creature, to  
A girl, was shamed as any common sinner.  
What celebrations then for a girl child?  
Unwanted and abased, her stars unlucky.  
Even today Indian girls live thus.  
And this was I brought ~~weeping~~ crying to this world  
A thousand times before, and thus I left it.  
The legend of this sorrow can be known  
To no one but myself.

Each child that's born  
Is my birth, and each spring when orchards bloom,  
And each time birds gain freedom from their cages,  
And each time a new star shoots through the sky,  
And every prisoner whose chains are broken,  
And every ~~fe~~to danced to the liberty  
Of a free people, is my day of birth.  
~~And my heart cherishes that day.~~  
A day that my heart cherishes.

Unah

Sept 86.