

Persephone's Defense of Hades

My husband is eternally misunderstood.
Someone must act as jailer for the deserving;
Someone must prosecute the case for the righteous.
As if he himself was evil!
He is the only one here by choice.

Even I would not have followed him
To these depths except by force.
Though the beginning was brutal,
Later he released my heart
He was the only way
I could be away from my mother.
And she didn't take it well...
Hades soon became crowded from her wrath.

In the dark, I could do as I like...
Away from Mother's household rules.
People love the sight of her home
Yet it requires a lot of upkeep;
She is always at work while I visit there.
All except my husband treat me like a pretty
 little flower –
Just one of my mother's many creations.

Only my husband ever took me seriously.
I found my own realm within that
Which he shared with me.
Was I to be Demeter's daughter forever?
No more than a lovely object
For all of mankind to look upon?

My husband works among the ugliest,
The warped and worn of another's creation.
He earns my respect and compassion each day
Then he whispers to me of love and courts me
 each night.
Someone's lot must be the darkness...
Though, to be unseen does not suit most deities.

- Rija Maha