

Bangladesh, Bangladesh

Bibu and Nuha

*Bangladesh, Bangladesh;
Have some fun;
Go play in the sun;
And fish for fun.*

*Bangladesh, Bangladesh
They farm rice;
Very very nice.*

*Bangladesh, Bangladesh
Riding on a rickshaw;
Waving to who I see;
Why don't you play with me.*



(Nuha)



(Bibu)

GHOSTS OF DHAKA

Nuha Hossain

It was Tuesday afternoon. I came back from school when I saw an old man in the living room with a ring on his head. My Mom said he came from Middle East and was visiting here for two days. After I took a shower I called my friends to come over. The man's name was Charu

and I told my friends about him. I knew a spell to get a ghost to scare him away I looked in my library book. It says, "If you want a ghost you need three Hosts." I told them that it meant you need four to do this, and I already have four people. So, Ali, Shuha, Zaki and I sat in a circle to use the spells in order to have a ghost.

I said the spell, but nothing happened. Then my friends had to leave our house. I was little bit upset not getting the ghost. At night, when I was getting ready to sleep, I saw a small kid ghost. He said he was sent by his mother, because someone called a ghost. I told him that I called him. He told me his name was Karako. So I told him he could sleep with me. Only I could see Karako and he was invisible to everybody. The next day Karako woke up early, and went downstairs. He saw Charu watching Hindi movie. He picked up the TV remote and changed the TV channel. Charu picked up the TV remote and changed the TV channel. Somehow they were playing tug-of war with TV remote. Charu thought it was strange because he could not see Karako and got scared. When I came to the living room I saw Karako pulling the TV remote. When Charu saw me he thought I was acting like that. But I was not.

I called my friends to come over. I told them all about Karako. Then we played hide-n-seek, tag, and freeze tag. I won freeze tag, Zaki won hide-n-seek, and Karako won tag.

Then it was breakfast time. I saw Karako take Jhal and put it in Charu's mouth. Charu yelled, "Jhal! Jhal! It has

Jhal!” Then my mom gave him a sweet called rashmalai. Then Karako put another Jhal to Charu’s mouth and Charu again yelled. “Jhal! Jhal! It has Jhal!” again. Then he drank juice that also had Jhal. I laughed so hard that I cried. On this point Charu was so scared and decided to find out the cause. When I went to my room Charu followed me. He saw Karako draw a picture of me as a dancer. At that time, Charu came to know that Karako was a ghost. Then he barged into the room. He grabbed me and tied me to my coat rack and taped my lips. Then he caught up Karako with my blanket and tied him up and put him in a cage. When I looked out the window, I saw my friends were playing out there. Thank goodness my window was open. I started screaming until they climbed up to the window. They untied the rope, and took the tape off. Then we sat in a circle, and said the spells.

In a moment, a very tall woman was appeared in front of us. We told her all about Charu taking Karako. She went in front of Charu and sent him to sleep. She made the cage bigger and put Charu in it. Karako ran to his mom, and hugged her. Then Karako said bye-bye to us and went home.



(BAN Annual Picnic, 2007)

ROSE FOR A ROSE

Samia Bodruzzaman

*The rose petal given to you are
shedding
No place where it's heading
As the fragrance withers away with the
Wind*

*There are no more ones to send
Into the hands of many loved ones
Shutting down all that sparkled in the
Sun*

*For it is a sign of death amongst all
Till the day you see it completely fall
That we don't want to blister like its
thorn*

*But that is how it is beautifully adorned
To amuse those starry eyes
As it is on the ground that will eventually
Lie*

*Down as some great creation for us to
See
Until the day for it to break and be free
Out from this cold weather, where it rips
Away*

*Giving us no more, fading away, for us
not to see for another day
That we will not bear its existence in this
world that has been cruel*

*Making its beauty even more fooled
Since no one touched this object that is
foul and bitter
Cause we did not want to make its life
Better*