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**Shefali Tripathi Mehta**



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## **Fallen Trees**

Stunningly stripped  
They stood in the water.  
Pale bodies,  
arms raised skyward  
Taut to a smoothness.  
Bare gopis.  
Days and months and years  
against the gossamer Bangalore sky.  
Long lost childhood dreams  
began to breathe.  
A small bookshop  
Sitting beneath the traffic  
selling glossy stories  
of Svetlanas and Ivans  
in a bare, blank  
Russian winter landscape.  
Then the machine gang came.  
'Heavy duty' chainsaws.

Against the sullied Bangalore sky  
I saw them  
fallen in the slush.  
Arms above, stretched in surrender.  
Cleared.  
A clearing.  
To be filled with  
grey living holes  
booming contraptions.  
Vera must turn into a picture again.  
The blue god will need to play his flute elsewhere for me.

♣♣♣*END*♣♣♣