

**TILL
DEATH
DO US
PART**

and other stories

Jayakanthan Translated from Tamil by Andy Sundaresan

TILL DEATH DO US PART
and Other Stories

ప్రతుమైన

శ్రీ మోతీ గారికి

సుందరేశన్

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JAYAKANTHAN

Translated from Tamil
by
ANDY SUNDARESAN

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Jayakanthan

"...TILL DEATH DO US PART...!" AND OTHER STORIES

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Foreword by Dr. K.S. Subramanian

"Marriage is the first step in a process where a man or woman, who has been living for his or her own sake, is willing to live for another person. Marriage forms the narrowest, yet the most basic circle of cooperation in social relationships. It is this spirit of mutual cooperation and sacrifice that finally elevates the partners and thus the human society they live in."

From the short story 'The Teaching Trial'

One can turn to literature to learn about marriage — as an ideal and as a fact. In this anthology of stories by Jayakanthan, widely acclaimed as 'the most eminent creative Tamil writer of the second half of the twentieth century', readers will find consolation and inspiration in equal measure.

The title story explores the chasm between the dual roles of Anantharaman — his intimate reality as a banal tyrant and his public masquerade as a free-thinking intellectual. We follow, in the person of Anantharaman, the making of a 'gentleman' from a middle class family and his struggle for identity within the contradictions of society.

All the seven stories reflect something of the infinite diversity in marriage and give a broad perspective on the nature of marriage and its manifestations with lucidity and insight. It is the uneasy alternation of feeling, of pathos and irony, of intimacy and estrangement that makes up the sweet and sour pleasure of this anthology.

Andy Sundaresan has translated many of Jayakanthan's works from Tamil to English. His first book of Jayakanthan's short stories, under the title, 'Trial by Fire', was published in June 2000. He lives in El Cerrito, California.