

**Collector**  
**Sinchan Chatterjee**

I pile my past into a heap  
and set it on fire by the side of a road  
I sit down to soak in the fire  
I rub my palms and relish the heat  
the embers fly all around  
and stick to my coat  
burning holes in my pockets  
so there's nothing to hold in them.  
The fire then dies and the ashes  
are blown by the wind.

Tomorrow,  
I can begin collecting life again.

Sinchan Chatterjee is an Indian poet and author. His previously published works include, “In Search of a Story” (a collection of twenty short stories) and two collections of poems, titled “Plato in Metro”(Writers Workshop Kolkata) and “War of the Roses” (WordIt Art Fund).