



1964

# Michigan

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Because of jacaranda, gold-mohur  
Night-opening champak's heaviness of sweet,  
Hibiscus, lotus; camels along the street,  
The stars; Diwali cressets at the gate and door;  
Colorful ceremonies of the rich and poor;  
The tinkling anklets on the young and fleet,  
The raag for rain--glad for surcease of heat,  
And peacocks in the Garden of Pinjore--  
Have I perjured my love of maple trees  
And the wild cherry in white drifts forsworn,  
Forgetting Queen Anne's Lace about my knees  
And blackbirds soaring from the yellow corn?  
No, for the heart of my warm heart decrees:  
True springs can only be where one was born.

Helmi Diol