

## Salomé and the Baptist

The history of Salomé and John the Baptist  
Is one of the best, and yet, the dirtiest!  
Every now and then, it undergoes resurrection  
And in each time, Salomé seeks the hermit's destruction.  
Hers is a dance of deliberate temptation  
That she mantles with airs of infatuation.  
'Salomé and the Baptist' is a story of fear and awe,  
If you don't believe me, let's go!  
Here's Salomé wickedly hooks the bait  
In form of a light convincing debate.  
'I'm determined and will decoy  
That innocent and shy boy.  
'My last dance will ever be the best  
Which repercussions would rock the east and the west.'  
'His head will be soon on the silver tray;  
In no time, the boy would be my prey.'  
She sneaked to poor John's cell  
Willing to convert his peace to hell;  
Not minding that he was praying to God.  
'It'll comfort me to bathe in his blood.'  
The end of the story is known to everyone  
But wait! The new version isn't yet done.  
However, there would remain forever a question:  
Has Salomé got her desired satisfaction?

*Naeema Abdelgawad, an ex-Fulbrighter assistant professor, interpreter and translator, is a fiction and non-fiction writer, critic and published scholar in the premise of cross cultural, ethnic and interdisciplinary studies as well as translation theory.*



## **The Pangolin Review; Issue 6, 8 September 2018**