AUTUMN IS IN THE AIR

Urmilla Chawla

The leaves have changed into shades of yellow, amber and brown

Earthy and rustic autumn is here, and summer has left town.

Flowers have withered, wilted, and whizzed hither and yon

Now we see dewy mornings and the sun setting early on.

The multi-hued leaves are softly falling everywhere

The curvaceous branches of the trees are getting bare.

The dry leaves rustle under the feet in walkways

And fashion a padded carpet in the driveways.

The deciduous trees are graciously letting the dead leaves fall

Teaching us that let go when the handwriting is on the wall.

The barren trees, tall and short, are now part of the landscape

Reminding us that the certainity of death, no one can escape.

Acorns, seeds, berries, and nuts are rattling to the ground

A treat for the squirrels, their winter hoarding will abound.

In harvest bread, cakes, and cookies, we now indulge

Eating pies and taffy apples, our stomachs may bulge.

The children are back to school, babbling in carpools

With backpacks and sports bags, they hobble to schools.

Embracing old classmates and making new friends

Studying, playing and before you know it, their day ends.

When the powerful autumn sun shines out of the clouds

It warms the earth, uplifts our mood, and cheers the crowds.

Children put on their hoodies and go swinging in the trees

They play ball outdoors before the snow and the winter freeze.

Fresh mums planted in colors scarlet, rust, yellow and tan

Medley of these vibrant colors lifts the soul of every man.

Sipping cider and spiced tea with friends O so favorite

It has a magic power to heal the body, mind, and spirit.

Such is the cycle of the seasons; after spring comes summer

After autumn and the drama of colors comes snowy winter.

Changes have occurred in every living thing since the ages

Yet, they hold on to their beauty, even in their final stages.

Though, I am feeling melancholic that summer charm is fading

I am glad that with ‘autumn in the air’ and a new tone is setting

September equinox to December solstices, we are celebrating

Traditions like Harvest Festivals, Halloween, and Thanksgiving.