In preparing this Thesis I have consulted various books on Whitman and his poetry, a list of which has been given. I mention below some of those which have helped me most: The solitary singer, Walt Whitman Handbook, The reader's Guide to Walt Whitman; all written by Jay Wilson Allen; Walt Whitman: A critical study by Basil de Selincourt; Walt Whitman by Frederick Schyberg, the Danish Critic; Walt Whitman: His Life and Work by Miss Perry; A Life of Walt Whitman by Henry Binnis; A critical Guide to "Leaves of Grass" by James B. Miller; Life and Work of Walt Whitman by the Russian Critic Maurice Mendelson; Walt Whitman: The Critical Heritage by Milton Hindus; The Evolution of Walt Whitman (Volumes I and II) by Roger Asselineau, the French critic.

I have consulted all these and many other books on Walt Whitman and tried to make this a comprehensive study of the great poet.

I have given some lines of Bengalee poets (with English rendering) which bear ideas similar to Whitman's. I am also indebted to Sri Premendra Mitra, the great Bengalee poet after Tagore, who had translated into Bengali, many poems of Whitman and published them in a book-form; and who very kindly gave his homage to the great American poet in a written statement to me.

Contd........
I acknowledge gratefully my debt to my professor and supervisor of this thesis Shri Jyoti Bhattacharya of Calcutta University who gave me his utmost help and co-operation to complete my work. He very patiently corrected my errors and offered me valuable suggestions for the improvement of my work.

I should not forget to mention the names of my father Shri Ashu Chattopadhyay, Bengali author and journalist and my husband Shri Debaprasad Mukhopadhyay - without the active co-operation and profuse inspiration of these two persons I could never have continued and completed my thesis.

I also thankfully remember the staff of the American Center Library (of both Chowringhee and college Street) who extended their co-operation to me by giving me valuable books and articles on Whitman. Besides them, I acknowledge my indebtedness to all my friends and colleagues who have contributed to my work in different ways.

I conclude by these words that here I have attempted to re-discover in the poetry of Walt Whitman the aim of poetry which is not only to give pleasure to the readers but also to help them to raise them from their state of dejection and enable them to look at the positive side of life.