

TREE ?

You stand with such majesty and power.
You are every breath I breathe.
You protect my eyes from the sun's bright rays.
You strengthen the ground beneath my path.
You tell me the wind's direction in an instant.
You offer shelter to creatures big and small.
You provide me with nourishment
Through your fruits and sap.
You donate your limbs, your whole being
To allow me to have a home, a chair, a bed.
There are some of you who loose your leaves
When the cool winds blow; and some that have
Elected to hold onto them for fear of exposure.
You wear a multitude of colours, from deep reds to
Bright oranges and limes that brighten my day.
Your fragrance awakens my soul with a freshness
That flows throughout my being.
We have not been fair to you, for you have
No way of fighting back, of standing your ground.
There are those of us who have tried to protect you
From the vultures of so-called progress.
I pray for you each time I gaze up through your
Wonderful limbs, I hope that we will slow our progress.
I want my children and their children to give you a hug,
To sit on your limbs and talk amongst you and yours.
I want them to understand that you are as much a living
Breathing being as any human tries to be.
We are ignorant by our thoughts that intelligence is
Based on the height of your voice, rather than the
Height of your structure, or the volume of your contribution.
That you make each day without a request being made.
If you and yours go, my friend, then we all go.
As more of my kind inhabit the earth, then I believe
That you will grow again, and become one with the stars.

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