

Nutrition Tree

A tree stands alone on the empty lot,
From a landscape view, it's just a dot,
But it is incredibly important to oh so many
And it's worth a million if it's worth a penny.

It's home to birds like the robins and jays,
Squirrels nest here and the young one plays,
When the Coopers hawk lands it all quiets down
For the tree community goes to hawk lockdown.

Now the image in the painting is about nutrition
About what was ordered by the Earth's physician
For trees have a very important role to perform
As a part of the Earth's recycling platform.

A tree takes carbon dioxide from the air
And gives us back oxygen which is only fair,
The carbon is converted to a carbohydrate
To become wood and leaves is its fate.

And when the leaves fall and limbs decay
It closes a cycle yet some carbos will stay
To add to the biomass, the carbon reserve
A climate solution with moxie and verve.

And the tree recycles water through transpiration,
It's a neat phenomenon – a source of inspiration,
For the roots suck up water and send it to the top
Where it goes into the air to become a raindrop.

And then there are elements like nitrogen and phosphorus

To include them in a poem might seem preposterous
But these mineral additives are used and released
When the leaves degrade, and their use has ceased.

And they go to the soil where they are collected
And reused in a system that the tree's perfected
The tree's a smart being - an amazing lifeform
Let's leave it alone – it has duties to perform.

So welcome to Earth church
Pull yourself up a pew
Say a prayer that your love
Will include trees too.