

# BETWEEN THE SPECIES

One Earth

MARY DE LA VALETTE

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## MARY DE LA VALETTE

When the birds are gone

Will we care ?

Will we sit outside

And mourn the quiet ?

Will there be

A sense of loss ?

Of missing beauty ?

Of Nature diminished ?

Or will we merely

Go inside

And turn on the TV ?

When there are

No more animals

And we own the earth

What will we do ?

## MARY DE LA VALETTE

When the wind  
Is no longer  
Soft and warm  
But a raging monster  
Tearing off roofs  
And whipping fire,  
Will we curse Nature  
Or ourselves ?

And, when the oceans die  
And we own  
The stinking cesspool  
And the earth  
Is a giant landfill,  
Where will we go ?

Mary de La Valette

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