

EXTINCTION

So if, on purpose or by chance,
You come upon a specie rare
At risk that it might disappear,
Don't pass them by with just a glance,
Don't let them soon become extinct,
Their lives and ours are often linked
Now's the time to take a stance.

Don't wait until it is too late.
For it is up to us to strive
To ensure the specie *will* survive.
Too often tis *we* who caused this state,
Don't stand aside and watch them die,
At the very least we all must try,
It maybe only *we* can seal their fate.

Treasures; hard to find food; cream for the face;
Mythical, rare, exotic – all things of desire.
The rarer the better, for the value is higher!
Till they are gone – extinct – without a trace.
Skins; ivory tusks; scent of unique flowers;
Horns; scales; beetle wings – with magical powers!
It's a total disgrace.

Everything in life is vital to another,
From bacteria to the tallest forest trees,
Plankton, coral, all things living in the seas,
For fertilizing, food, homes, or just to take cover.
However small, ugly, or insignificant they seem,
However much you hate them in extreme,
All have a vital role in life you will discover.

We humans too need clothes and food,
A place where we can work and play.
A place where we can safely stay –
A home – however grand or crude.
But, should we infringe with such excess
On others' lives, just for our success,
That we their very lives denude?

Each specie we lose, it's not just *that one*
For, those that depended on that lost life
All too soon will find themselves in strife.
A domino effect may well have begun.
So keep out all those that don't belong,
Be it animal; bird; fish; weed, that are wrong
Ensure *no* harm comes from what *you* have done.

If you don't, that's when we suffer with plague
For things very quickly get out of sink
When that lost life was the missing link.
If only we *thought* more and weren't so vague;
If we didn't just suit ourselves, just for gain;
If we learnt to be humble, learned to refrain,
When things go wrong, just rush off to The Hague.

So, if on purpose or by chance,
You come upon a specie,
Those endangered especially,
Be firm, and please, take a stance –
Let them live, without fear
That they soon might disappear.
And if you can, their lives enhance.

For there are many would displace
The environment we need.
Change it to satisfy their greed,
Destroy because *they* want the space.
Perhaps sometimes they're not aware,
More often they simply do not care
What's lost that we cannot replace.

Yes, sadly, that's more often the case.
And extinctions happen at one hell of a pace.