

# **Earth in Transition**

Ellie Woodward

Humans are *always* letting the earth down.

People disappoint me too.

I think if I could scorch this body with wildfires I would

Sit around and wait for new cells—*better* cells

They do replace themselves every seven years.

Does she feel the abuse of herself in law?

As entitled elites govern her health for her

Determining what her strengths are

and how they might exploit them.

Does she cry as her advocacy is silenced?

A desperate scream for help drowned out

“I don’t think children should be learning about *those* kind of things”

says some mom at a PTO meeting.

Does she reel in paranoia?

A sinking feeling in her chest

When they find some part she tried to hide

Planets like her don’t live for long

Does she feel her death looming?

The shadow of Venus

meat hooked into her soul

engulfs generations.

There is a ball of fire deep inside the earth

Her core like a brain

Some pink mass in me

Reflecting the same

I hope they never drill there

or that she sheds her skin first.

Some naked center drifting through space

As she ought to be

And they would say, “Come home”.

And she would say, “I never come home

Because you make me feel sick

Empty and out of place

I am not your field to plow

Or forest to cut down

Every part of me is happy

Except for the part still with *you*”.

That last line would be bitter

enough to make everyone miss her.

Or maybe they would move on

Or never call at all

If I were her, I wouldn't trust people.

I don't trust people now

and that makes me the earth.

I am one with nature.

What if the earth is with her therapist?

Hearing that she needs to stop

Caring so much about people

Focusing more on herself

Mass-extinction

Is the quickest path

To self-reflection

It is healthy to let go

Maybe she will let go of me

and maybe that's ok.

I'm happy just to remain in her orbit

Become stardust

Form a new planet of my own

We could look the same

Everything would be quiet

Eventually, I fade into her

Like a stain or cotton candy

For once I am spinning in control.