



# THE ECOPOETRY ANTHOLOGY

Edited by **Ann Fisher-Wirth** and **Laura-Gray Street**

“A necessary book, a radical  
intervention, a daring collection of  
human calls and cries which respond  
to our endangered and disappearing world.”

— EDWARD HIRSCH

INTRODUCTION BY **ROBERT HASS**

Walt Whitman opens this landmark anthology of poems—80 historical from the mid-nineteenth to the mid-twentieth century and over 300 contemporary—by more than 200 writers.

“An ethics occurs at the edge / of what we know,” writes Brenda Hillman, and you can consider this plump volume an encyclopedia of things worth knowing: places, species, but also passions, ideas, rays of light and barrels of poison. For by ‘environment’ we mean the world of tangible things and a way of thinking systematically: this book deepens your relationship to both those things and is a pleasure besides.” — **REBECCA SOLNIT**

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# Juan Carlos Galeano

## Árbol

Un hombre enamorado de un árbol se va a vivir un tiempo con él antes de casarse.

"Así no tendrás que buscar más sol, ni agua ni comida," le dicen sus amigos.

Todas las noches el hombre le peina los cabellos al árbol y luego se sientan a tomar té con sus amigos, los planetas y las estrellas más cercanas.

*Life* y las revistas ecológicas le cuentan la historia de amor a todo el mundo.

Pero un día el hombre se cansa de verle la misma cara al sol, a la luna y a las estrellas.

Los familiares, ecólogos y estrellas más amigas vienen y le preguntan por qué no quiere vivir más con el árbol.

El hombre les dice que ha pensado casarse con un río o una nube, o con algo más variado.

## Tree

A man in love with a tree goes to live with him for awhile before getting married.

"Now you no longer need to look for sunshine, water, or food," the man's friends tell him.

Every night the man combs the tree's hair and later they sit down to tea with their friends, the planets and the closest stars.

*Life* and the environmental magazines tell their love story to the whole world.

But one day the man gets tired of seeing the same faces, the same sun, moon and stars.

Relatives, ecologists and their best friends, the stars, come and ask him  
why he doesn't want to live with the tree anymore.

The man tells them that he's been thinking of marrying a river, or a cloud,  
or something more versatile.

## Historia

En el norte cazábamos muchos búfalos  
y la grasa nos calentaba todos los inviernos.

Pero en la selva nos dijeron que para traer más luz  
le echáramos más árboles al fogón del sol.

Un día se nos fue la mano, y le echamos toda la selva  
con sus pájaros, los peces y los ríos.

Ahora pasamos mucho tiempo mirando las estrellas  
y casi nunca cambia el menú de nuestra caza.

Hoy hemos cazado una nube  
que iba a ser invierno en la ciudad de Nueva York.

## History

In the north we hunted many buffalo  
whose lard kept us warm all winter.

But in the jungle they told us that to bring more light  
we should throw more trees into the sun's furnace.

One day our hand slipped and tossed in the entire jungle  
with its birds, fish, and rivers.

Now we spend a lot of time gazing at the stars  
and our daily menu almost never changes.

Today we hunted down a cloud  
that was going to become winter in New York City.

—Translated by James Kimbrell and Rebecca Morgan