



The
City
Inside
the
Trunk
of
the
Tree

Dan
Ivec

THE CITY INSIDE
THE TRUNK
OF THE TREE

by
Dan Ivec

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“Human Crickets,” “Many Rain Causes,” and “You Asking the Woods” have previously appeared in *Caketrain*.

Five Pieces in Old Remembering

The house I became a werewolf
inside of and the yard beneath
the UFO and the door that
left for other worlds and the
sister who told me and thoughts
I'll never think were really mine.

‘Lonely’ Symphony (No. 86)

All the airplanes in space

and the turtles with their hammers
can hear the telephones on Mars
and the vultures clinking glasses
they know I will soon be theirs
and that a widow will not last
long in such a big auditorium.

Many Rain Causes

It is important to struggle through
the weather and to remember it is
why you are here believing
in all your many tasks
like making a leaf from
the men and being welcomed
without getting killed
in the city inside
the trunk of the tree.

Human Crickets

Human crickets are
my favorite animals
I mean my favorite
people who sing
hiding all night
and I would have been
all alone without them.

The Wine Message of the Fireworks

These fireworks are telling
me what to do
again I am listening

to the sound of the colorful
angels giving up.

The Snow Rosary Bearer

I pray the melting
ones in a different
order each night
and who am I
to judge myself
for judging
my heavens!!

Dead Older Breathing

The last tree

alive in my apartment

is the last tree that fought
in a war between the oaks
and the giant maple union
and its because of this war
(and a hundred others)
that we drink the syrup
we drink

when we are being
all soft and empty
in the cities.

You Asking the Woods

In one hotel I slept

all night and the woods
they were also there
in the next room over
and breathing quietly
what were they thinking
about those woods
with their green hats
and their longest legs
of all time.

The Rains Escape Her Lap

While many clouds love
to stand up and work
hard and hold it
all in you know

my God they are stoics
they must be better
than you.

Torrential Father of Knife Children

Of course on the planet
next door they have
other ways of doing it all
and they have their own
notions of the holiness
of their own special style

and this includes even the rain
clouds that live way past
the starry road you saw
the one time we became
so lost getting away
from my uncle's big dogs
and we closed our eyes
scared then when seeing
a big strong cloud spitting its knives
and all of these farmers were running.

The Boys Telling the Rain

I miss you and I love

the way you are walking

away right away

when you say

hello to me

by going

down the roof

and through

the gutter along

the streets until

the ends of the empire.

Long Roads in the Mountain Which Die

Can a road die

if it's never lived well
maybe in my empire
there will be someone
there to kill it
if it's never lived

can a road die if no one
charming ever took
a witched Rolls-
Royce up and down
its own dreaming
skin can a road
die if it loses

in the mountains its way
to a nice
Mutiny Hotel.

DAN IVEC shares his birthday with Anatol Vieru, who wrote three operas.

